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BAY AREA REPORTER

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Serving the Gay & Lesbian Community for more than 27 years

GLOE, SF Commission on Aging to hold gay seniors' town hall meeting

by Mark Norby

The San Francisco Commission on Aging (COA) and Gay and Lesbian Outreach for Elders (GLOE) will hold a town hall meeting at the Francis of Assisi Community Center this Friday, January 8 from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. The meeting proposes to gather information from seniors 55 years and over in order to better serve lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) seniors.

In order to obtain a more precise picture of the needs of San Francisco's LGBT seniors, the COA has conducted telephone surveys and has developed a demographic outline based on the survey's respondents. This outline will complement information gathered from the town hall meeting, which subsequently will be processed and combined in a report that will be available to the public.

"A lot of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender seniors are pretty hesitant on identifying themselves when it comes to their sexuality," says COA Commissioner Pat Durham, who is herself a lesbian. "The town hall meeting will give the LGBT seniors an opportunity to voice who they are and what their interests are, in a supportive environment."

"I believe that [LGBT] participation in the town hall meeting process will provide the COA with the information needed to shape the area plan and to determine future funding priorities for the FY [fiscal year] 1999-2000 request for proposal for senior services," says COA Executive Director David Ishida. Without this information seniors would be unaccounted for, with fewer services available to them. This, Durham and Ishida believe, would be a grave disservice to LGBT seniors. Therefore participation is vital.

"This is a wonderful opportunity," concludes Durham. "If seniors want more, they need to be counted. The town hall meeting is their chance to get what they want." ▶

The town hall meeting will be held at the Francis of Assisi Community Center, located at 145 Duboce at Guerrero in San Francisco. LGBT seniors, advocates and service providers are all welcome to attend. For more information, call GLOE at (415) 255-2937.

Family Unity Day goes gay as Davis takes office in Sacto



Children of the rainbow – plus Gray: California's first Democratic governor in 16 years, Gray Davis, was all smiles and surrounded by children the day before he was sworn in during his Family Unity Day celebration at the Railroad Museum in Old Sacramento Sunday, January 3. Many lesbian and gay parents attended the event with their children.

Parade fees waived for small nonprofits

Free float-building space in the spring

by Cynthia Laird

The San Francisco Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Pride Celebration Committee, Inc. mailed applications for the 1999 Pride Parade December 31, and included a New Year's bonus for small nonprofits that participated last year – application fees will be waived entirely for those groups that return the forms by April 1.

In another move, the pride committee will rent space for organizations to build floats later this spring.

"The abolition of fees for many small and struggling organizations will come as a tonic to start the new year," Executive Director Teddy Witherington said. To be eligible for the free parade entry, nonprofit organizations had to have participated in last year's event and have an annual budget below \$50,000, Witherington explained.

He said about 50 such groups would be eligible for the no-fee program, based on last year's participation.

In addition to the abolition of fees for smaller nonprofits, larger ones will receive discounts. The new fee structure also provides a reduced rate for queer businesses. Not only that, but the mailing of the application form at the start of the year gives everyone plenty of time to get their com-

pleted applications in prior to the April 1 deadline, after which fees go up substantially as the date for the Pride Parade draws closer, said Witherington.

"We'll see how it goes this year," Witherington told the *Bay Area Reporter*, referring to the dropping of fees for small nonprofits.

"It's all part of a realignment of priorities," Witherington continued. "The financial success of the 1998 event and the retirement of our debt is having a direct impact upon those community groups who need a break. This is our parade and our community should be able to participate within it at either no cost or minimal cost."

"This is a start," he added. "The long-term plan is to eventually abolish contingent fees for all nonprofits."

Witherington said the fee schedule varies but that before April 1, for nonprofits with annual budgets between \$50,000 and \$250,000, the parade fee is \$40. It increases to \$80 for entry forms received in May, and \$160 for forms received in June. For larger nonprofits with annual budgets over \$250,000, the parade fee is only \$60 if applications are turned in before April 1. The fee then goes to \$120 for forms received in May and tops out at \$240 for entry applications received in June.

Enabling participation doesn't stop with

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by M. R. Richards, B.A.R.
capitol correspondent

Gay and lesbian families joined in inaugural festivities at Governor Gray Davis's Family Unity Day event on Sunday, January 3 at the Railroad Museum in Old Sacramento. Davis took the oath of office as California's 37th governor Monday, January 4.

Although it has been reported that gay and lesbian families were specifically asked to attend the event, trip organizer Charlie Spiegel, a San Francisco attorney, says that was not the case. "We saw that there was going to be an event scheduled for families and Cheryl Deane of All Our Families Coalition and our group which is called Our Family got the idea that we'd like to attend. We felt there should be lesbian and gay families there and we made some calls to some people so that we could get access to tickets."

Spiegel attended the event alone with his 22-month-old daughter, Nora – his partner Jim Emery, also an attorney, was working. "It was high energy," he said, "there were carnival rides, a coin toss with great prizes. It was good time – a kid-oriented event with all different kinds of families participating."

Spiegel said that a gay and lesbian presence at the event was "important, because

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Project Open Hand volunteers built this float for last year's parade. This spring groups will have free space to construct their floats.

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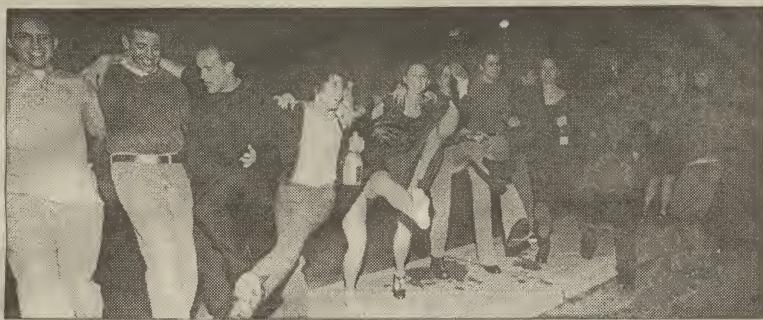
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Jane Philomen Cleland

Revelers in the Castro kicked up their heels and toasted New Year's last Thursday night and Friday morning. Most everyone comported themselves well (urp!), with only minor incidents reported.

All kinds of flames alight Castro New Year's Eve celebrations

by Mark Norby

A burning Tannenbaum, a pushy patron, a nasty neighbor, and brazen boys were all part of the New Year's Eve parties in the Castro, according to the San Francisco Patrol Special Police.

Police blocked off Castro Street around 10:30 p.m. so that New Year's revelers could spill from the sidewalks and into the streets, and to prevent car and pedestrian-related accidents.

Some, but not many, problems arose. Several street partiers reported youths breaking bottles next to All American Boy, resulting in the arrest of one juvenile.

Moby Dick bartenders reported a Christmas tree was set afire outside of the bar, scorching a parked Mercedes. The arsonist was not found, but the bartenders are happy to say that the flaming that went on inside the bar was considerably less dangerous than the scene outside.

A drunk and disorderly patron at the Pendulum was reported giving the bouncer a hard time. The bouncer called the patrol and the suspect was later found inside

The Edge. Bartenders at The Edge had the man removed, then returned to their cocktail mixers.

An irate neighbor of The Bar on Castro soaked revelers on the bar's patio by spraying them with a garden hose. The patrons, dripping and wet, said they were disappointed that the neighbor didn't use his hose in a more festive manner.

Vehicles were once again able to traverse the streets around 2:30 a.m., after the bars had shut down.

No further occurrences of destructive behavior were reported and the patrol states that, all in all, New Year's Eve in the Castro was safer and more civil than in most parts of San Francisco. ▼

Are you for HRC LGBTAC?

by Mark Norby

The San Francisco Human Rights Commission (HRC) is currently seeking new members and reviewing resumes from active community members for the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Advisory Committee (LGBTAC). As one of the five standing committees of the HRC, the LGBTAC identifies and addresses issues and concerns of the LGBT community and advises the HRC on these issues.

The LGBTAC has spent the last year focusing on panhandling in the Castro, senior LGBT needs and services, housing and eco-

nomic stability, the Latino/a community, and racism.

The committee is especially looking for members who are community activists knowledgeable and skilled in areas including HIV/AIDS, anti-violence, disability, education, health, youth diversity, civil rights, gender, and women's issues. Applications are due by 5 p.m. January 21. ▼

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GLAAD, DQ to discuss Internet protection Fri.

by Sam Curlee

Digital Queers and the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD) will host a panel discussion on public policy and the Internet this Friday, January 8, right after the Macworld Expo in San Francisco.

The panel will be held at the Club-i Internet cafe at 850 Folsom Street between 4th and 5th streets, from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. The cover charge, which includes the panel and a shmoozefest to follow, is \$20 and can be paid at the door.

Recently, speech on the Internet has come close to being regulated in a way that would seriously impinge on individual freedoms guaranteed by the Constitution according to a report released in 1997 by GLAAD entitled Access Denied.

This will be one of the topics discussed Friday.

The report, available on GLAAD's website at <http://www.GLAAD.org>, details the dangers of Internet filtering software that is intended to screen out language or images that may be considered obscene or unfit for children. The bone of contention lies in the screening process itself. Since some software doesn't differentiate between sexual content and homosexual content, sights about square dancing for gay couples will be denied access, just as pornography.

The report says this not only impinges free speech, but also threatens the fabric of a thriving queer Internet community. "Access to a wide variety of Internet sites is especially important to members of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender community, because it provides them with vital information, a forum for ex-

pression, and a sense of solidarity," the report stated. "Internet filtering software threatens that access and prevents the community from receiving valuable resources by uniformly blocking many important informational sites."

And, according to the report, there are those who would block any sight having to do with homosexuality even if the content isn't sexual in nature. Associate Professor Jonathan Weinberg of Wayne State University, states in a paper entitled "Rating the Net" that although some sights respond to pressure from groups such as GLAAD, other software agencies remain adamant about content that is merely homosexual in nature. A representative from Cyber-sitter stated her company's policy this way, "I wouldn't even care to debate the issue if gay and lesbian issues are suitable for teenagers.... We filter anything that has to do with sex. Sexual orientation is about sex by virtue of the fact that it has sex in the name."

Alameda library sued

Much of the current controversy over Internet obscenity and software filtering programs comes from the 1996 Communications Decency Act, a bill that GLAAD labeled as "poorly constructed". This bill, fostered by former Senator Jim Exon, was intended to punish sites that make material on the net classified as "indecent" with fines not to exceed \$100,000 and up to two years in prison time.

This same bill, after being passed by both houses of Congress, was declared unconstitutional by the Supreme Court.

But the effort to regulate who sees what on the Internet was again taken up by the Senate when it approved the Internet School Filtering Act last March.

The bill requires schools and libraries that receive federal funds to install software designed to block material inappropriate for children. According to both GLAAD and the Gay, Lesbian, Straight Education Network (GLSEN), this is a violation of the First Amendment rights of students and citizens.

And more recently, an Alameda County parent filed a lawsuit against the city and the library of Livermore for allowing her son access to sexually explicit materials via the Internet. The woman, known only as Kathleen R., became enraged when her 12-year-old son downloaded dozens of images onto a floppy disk, printed them out on a relatives computer and showed them to friends at school.

Although a Superior Court judge ruled the city of Livermore was protected under the 1996 Communications Decency Act, the attorney for the family, Michael Millen, amended the suit saying the boy's constitutional rights were violated because he was given public access to sexually explicit materials.

"It's the same as if the library had a razor blade display case and allowed children to handle blades and the kids got cut. It's so outrageous that it rises to the level of constitutional deprivation," Millen said.

The case is scheduled to be

Murdered Russian River man's estate considers private investigator

by Lois Pearlman

Contrary to reports in local newspapers, the administrator for the estate of a Monte Rio bar owner murdered in October said he has not yet hired a private investigator. "We want to give them [Sonoma County Sheriff's Department investigators] a chance first," said Bill Brown, a San Francisco Realtor who is handling the estate of the late Hans Grahlmann.

A well-known, if controversial, gay bar and restaurant owner, Grahlmann, 57, was found murdered, along with his friend and employee Jason Blore, 26, at

Grahlmann's hillside home October 24. Police say the men were probably shot between 3 and 5 p.m. the previous afternoon.

Police have been investigating the case, questioning potential suspects and anyone else who may have information, but they still have not made any arrests.

"We have interviewed numerous subjects, and we will continue to interview people out there," said Detective Sergeant Nelson Pinola, who is overseeing the investigation of the case for the sheriff's department's Violent Crimes Unit.

Attempting to expedite the investigation

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Tales of Kwanzaa



Jae Philomen Olanke

Audience members applauded the drummers, dancers, poets, vocalists, and orators participating in the celebration of Kwanzaa at the Main Public Library on Dec 30. The week-long event, organized locally by Lesbians and Gays of African Descent for Democratic Action, affirmed the oneness and goodness of life, with people rejoicing in all their stories, both bitter and sweet.

Community leaders to advise City College about Castro campus Monday

by Cynthia Laird

The fourth in a series of community listening sessions scheduled by Dr. Philip R. Day Jr., the new chancellor of City College of San Francisco (CCSF), takes place this Monday, January 11 at the college's Castro/Valencia campus. There is an opportunity for the audience to listen during each of the sessions, which will include panel presentations from a variety of people.

"It's an attempt by CCSF as a community college to go out to the community we serve to ask people what their ideas are for the future vision of this college. Their suggestions will help us serve them better and to accommodate their needs better," Day said.

Day was hired by the college's board of trustees in July 1998, and assumed the duties of chancellor of the 63-year-old community college in September. The Maine native came to San Francisco with his wife, Val, from Daytona Beach Community College, where he had been president for eight years. He has more than 26 years of experience as a teacher and community college administrator.

Because the Castro/Valencia campus is in the forefront of the college's outreach to San Francisco's gay community, many of the listening panels will address the educational needs of the gay community. City College is the only

college in the nation that has a gay and lesbian studies department.

Speakers at the Castro/Valencia panels will include:

Academic partners panel, 5 p.m.: John Avakian, initiative director of Ed/Net, College of San Mateo; Larry Brinkin, gay and lesbian unit, San Francisco Human Rights Commission; Gilbert Herdt, director, human sexuality studies program, San Francisco State University; Gail Koffman, president, Presidio Center for Technology; Lynn Macias, co-founder, Presidio Center for Technology; Sheri McKenzie, director of enrollment services, California College of Arts and Crafts; San Francisco Art Institute Associate Director Renee Shearer; and Golden Gate University President Dr. Thomas Stauffer.

Developing Castro/Valencia campus panel, 6 p.m.: Kieran Flaherty, legislative assistant to Supervisor Mark Leno; Tomas Lee, legislative assistant to Supervisor Tom Ammiano; Harvey Milk Institute Executive Director Kevin Schaub; Everett Middle School principal Luz Valentin; and Tim Wolfred, former president of the City College board.

Civic organizations, community well-being panel, 7 p.m.: Lavender Youth Recreation and Information Center Executive Director Brian Cheu; San Francisco Women's Building Acting Executive Director Teresa Mejia; the Reverend Jim Mitulski, pastor of Metropolitan Community

Church-San Francisco; and Alex Rabourn, director of intern program at Woman, Inc.

Arts and culture panel 8 p.m.: Italian Cultural Institute Director Amelia Antonucci; Southern Exposure Director Mike Blockstein; Intersection for the Arts Program Director Kevin Chen; Goethe Institute teacher Julia Koch; and Golden Gate Senior Services Director Nick Lederer.

In addition to this week's community listening session, additional meetings are planned for the John Adams, Alemany, Mission, and Phelan campuses through February.

City College of San Francisco serves the multicultural population of the city and county of San Francisco with credit and non-credit instruction toward the goals of transfer, occupational skills training, English as a second language (ESL), and personal enrichment. City College teaches more than 92,000 day and evening students annually at nine campuses and more than 100 additional sites around the city. The college employs more than 750 full-time faculty, 1,000 part-time faculty, 769 classified staff, and 40 administrators. ▀

Monday's community listening session takes place starting at 5 p.m. at the Castro/Valencia campus, located at 450 Church Street.

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CAPE to meet in East Bay Saturday

by Cynthia Laird

The new statewide queer rights group, California Alliance for Pride and Equality (CAPE) will hold a meeting in the East Bay this Saturday, January 9, where organizers hope to continue the enthusiasm that started at CAPE's first general meeting in Sacramento last month and strengthen the voice of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) community in Alameda and Contra Costa counties.

The meeting in Oakland is free and open to interested community members.

"We're trying to generate involvement in the East Bay, a region that's always been overshadowed by San Francisco," Marty Martinez, a CAPE interim board member, told the *Bay Area Reporter*. "We want more members in the East Bay and we want to do a special outreach to Contra Costa County."

CAPE was formed last year in response to the closing of the Lobby for Individual Freedom and Equality (LIFE). CAPE hopes to attract more grassroots members and has lower membership fees than the LIFE Lobby had; the group is also focusing exclusively on LGBT human rights issues, as opposed to the LIFE Lobby that also dealt with HIV/AIDS measures. Individual CAPE memberships are \$25; low income, \$10; and organizational memberships begin at \$200. Organizers said memberships are encouraged in order to support the new group.

CAPE bills itself as the new statewide queer rights lobby, advocacy, and education group that's dedicated to community organizing at the local level.

"We're trying to establish ourselves as the statewide gay and lesbian civil rights group," said Martinez, who works as a policy coordinator at AIDS Project of the East Bay. "It's not just San Francisco and Los Angeles, but communities like Oakland, that has large communities of color. We hope to gather, brainstorm, and get more members in the East Bay."

Plans in formation

Among the items to be discussed at Saturday's meeting are planning for two events taking place in Sacramento in March, the annual Queer Youth Lobby Day on March 11 and the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force's "Equality Begins at Home" rally on March 21. Getting people up to the capital for the events is one of the goals.

Tentatively, plans for the Equality Begins at Home event include a service for gay veterans, an interfaith service, and a two-hour rally with speakers and performers.

"We want to see what kind of resources are in the East Bay," said Martinez.

A variety of East Bay LGBT groups are involved in Saturday's meeting, he added, including Smack, a group for queer youth that's based in Oakland.

Grant Peterson, an East Bay gay activist and educator, stated that at last month's Sacramento meeting, the membership voted overwhelmingly to place Santa Monica Assemblywoman Sheila Kuehl's "Dignity for all Students" bill at the top of the priority list. Adding sexual orientation to those education code sections addressing nondiscrimination is crucial to improving safety for students in California schools, Peterson noted.

Randy Allgaier, who serves as CAPE's interim coordinator, told the *B.A.R.* he hopes to be at Saturday's East Bay meeting. Additionally, Allgaier said that CAPE has hired Eric Astacaan on a contract basis to serve as a lobbyist. Astacaan has previously done civil rights work at the Gay and Lesbian Center in Los Angeles, and did HIV/AIDS policy work for the LIFE Lobby.

Allgaier said there will be a CAPE meeting in San Francisco on Monday, January 25 at Metropolitan Community Church-San Francisco.

"One of the objectives of these meetings is to look at grassroots regional organizing in different parts of the state," said Allgaier, "and to give folks here a chance to hear what's going on in Sacramento and get community input on that process." ▼

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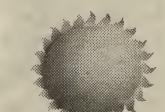
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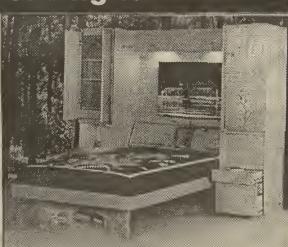
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Scouting for answers

The omens at the very beginning of 1999 ranged from the ridiculous to the slime: Clinton wants billions more for the Pentagon — what peace dividend? — and Israel deported "Concerned Christians" (back to America, as if we need 'em). Since then, however, some better portents have appeared. Some fall into the category of social science — Catholics repudiating anti-gay violence, for instance — and some are more "pure science" — like the possible advance against AIDS that's on page 24 of this issue. (Maybe we're crazy, but we haven't been this excited about any anti-HIV treatment possibility since we first reported that "inhibitor" drugs were driving viral loads to undetectable levels three years ago. Still, even if this new protein advance is as good as its promise, it's years away, so we're not opening the champagne.)

On the social science level, we're glad to see anything, *any* group, rejecting violence. Just to show the chain-reaction nature of violence, journalists working on the Matthew Shepard murder case reported that a woman found dead near Laramie, Wyoming was the mother of one Shepard's alleged killers, Russell Henderson. It turns out the woman, Cindy Dixon, had been the victim of sustained domestic violence; her husband has been convicted of beating her three times since 1996.

Henderson never learned from his family how he could direct violent impulses, except to follow through with violent actions. His stepfather may not have been the direct cause of Cindy Dixon's death (she may have just wandered off drunk, underdressed for the cold) but his is certainly, in insurance jargon, a proximate cause of Matthew Shepard's death.

It goes to show: *all* violence is a threat to all common safety. A domestic violence case that goes unreported in the apartment next door tonight may affect your life directly tomorrow, in unexpected ways. If someone had intervened in the violence going on in the Dixon household five years ago, might

Matthew Shepard not have survived to see 1999?

Now Henderson is facing his own death. Opponents of the death penalty believe it is the ultimate violence; proponents say it is protecting the common good. Some in the community are seeking to get a gay consensus on the question; we don't ever see that happening but we look forward to seeing whether the community wants to take up the question.

One more note for those who are feeling very sorry for Russell Henderson: he was not entirely without the "positive influences" that are supposed to make sociopathology less common: ironically, he was an Eagle Scout in the Boy Scouts of America.

The Boy Scouts are in court this week in

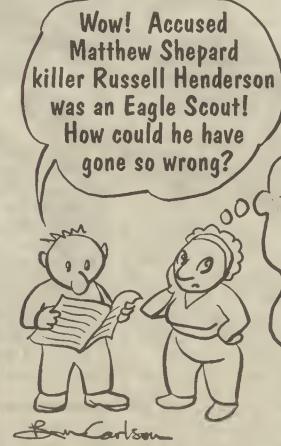
New Jersey, fighting an earlier ruling that forces them to accept gays as members. They say excluding gays is a matter of upholding morals. Henderson shows the opposite is true. By excluding gays, the Scouts are instructing members from an impressionable age that homosexuals are inferior. If anyone wonders why it's a big deal for gays to be a part of the Scouts (and the military, and everything else) it is so that people — all people — can be free of misconceptions about us. Boy Scouts of all

ages deserve to know that we are not sick, we're not wrong, we're not Godless, we're not predatory. If Henderson had known that, he would have been a lot less likely to find Matthew Shepard sub-human.

The Boy Scouts could have saved Shepard's life. Instead, it taught Henderson the knots he used to tie his victim to a fence. ▼

Editorial

**Wow! Accused
Matthew Shepard
killer Russell Henderson
was an Eagle Scout!
How could he have
gone so wrong?**



**...now the slipknot is
fun, boys. Just imagine
you're tying it around the
neck of a sissy queer.**



Where's my wedding?

by David Riccomini

I came across a photo of my Aunt Ricky's wedding in 1952. I was 4, the ring bearer, in the front with the flower girl. This was a union, for a lifetime, of two people, to love, share, and live together in sickness and health until death do they part. About 100 people attended this celebration, to sanction and approve of the union. Each family member or friend brought gifts for a household. A month or more of planning had gone into this gathering.

As a young man I thought that I would date someone, get to know them, and then marry. I use to spend hours thinking about the life choices we would make. It wouldn't be mine, when we talked about life, it would be ours. I met someone in 1972; his name was Ron. We were both college students in Sacramento. I was a theatre major and he was studying psychology. It was truly a love and a love returned. I use to tell him what I thought our lives would be like in the future. I didn't expect anyone, other than the small gay community in Sacramento, to be part of our union. That was the first compromise, loss of my dream. Our love — two middle class, Catholic men, from two loving families — would not be honored. This relationship didn't last. There were too many obstacles to overcome.

I got letters about my other family members from my parents. Cousins were paring off. I got accounts of visits where they brought home their prospective mates. I remember one family gathering were my cousin Johnny brought home his fiancée, Sue. She was a sparkly redhead studying fashion design and retailing. She chatted

with my grandparents and my parents. She was showing, my cousin, Phyllis, how to sew and create patterns. Johnny and Sue were the first of my generation to marry. I have 14 cousins and today all of them but me and two others are married. I knew I would have problems with all of the family after I came out to my parents and was disowned. So my relationships were not part of the family news.

When my cousins had children I got accounts of how cute they were. When they bought their first homes I was informed. In letters I got details of holiday dinners, picnics, baby-sitting, loans made to couples. They had an accepted social pattern. I realized then, that it was not going to happen for me.

I saw how some gay couples, the few that existed, reacted when other family members were expected for a visit. Sometimes a couple living together separated. If they had a two-bedroom house or apartment they went to separate bedrooms and played roommates. It was very foreign to me to think of hiding the person you loved from a person you loved. One hurt because you were in an unacceptable relationship, and the other hurt because he loves you and can't be part of your family.

Now I see more gay men together as a couple. The enormous toll and visibility of the AIDS pandemic has exposed who we are. That struggle exposed relationships that have spanned decades. Families were forced to realize that the person standing next to a dying AIDS patient wasn't a roommate but a soulmate. Who's to say if those boyfriends or friends would have been husbands? I spent 21 years of my life with a man who wasn't my husband. He was my best friend. But he died in 1993 of AIDS and many



David Riccomini in 1952

hours without him have told me that if we had been included in the family as a couple we might have had more.

I think it's easy to look at myself and think, maybe I'm just an old maid, spinster, bachelor. I recently heard a young man in his 20s say that he knew that he would someday be an old spinster with a freezer full of dead cats. It's painful to realize that he is so sure that it's not possible to have a wonderful relationship.

I still look at my family wedding photos and think, I don't have my supportive family sharing in my happiness. I don't have society's blessing or benefits. I don't have the right to include children in a loving relationship. I'm looking forward to the day someone else has that wedding.

February 12, 1999 is National Freedom To Marry Day. ▼

Castro businesses amok (I)

I wonder if residents of the Castro are aware of Walgreens' latest expansion plans? They have two signs up in the store asking for signatures on petitions in favor of a 'minor expansion,' which must mean the old Phoenix space next door. I saw one of the petitions and it only had one signature on it.

My preference is that they remain the size they are. They offer a practical range of household items 24 hours a day already. What do they need, another line of dog food?

It sure would be preferable to have another dance bar or bakery in that space. We could always use a little variety in clubs, and the Castro has lost three such institutions in just a few years (Night Shift, Jack-Hammer, and the Phoenix).

Though Walgreens has contributed little to the community over the years, it has good employees and offers good values on its items. But do we need an expansion of a store that is practically wallpapering the city with their outlets? Walgreens management, are you listening?

Tony Jasinski
San Francisco

Castro businesses amok (II)

[The following was sent to the vice president of customer service, Cala Foods]

On December 24, 1998 at 6:55 p.m., I made a small purchase at Cala Foods at 4201 18th Street.

The store was closing in honor of Christmas Eve, and the checkout clerks were working quickly to facilitate this process. As I waited in line, I pulled out my bill-fold and considered whether to break a \$50 bill before the holiday weekend or pay with a \$5 bill for a purchase totaling \$4.33. The checkout clerk, Pam Beauchamp, mistook the \$50 I handed to her for a \$20 and gave me \$15.67 in change. I immediately replied, "I gave you \$50." She responded by turning and shouting to the manager, "Joe, you are going to be mad." Joe Vance came over and indeed was very irate as Pam told him, "he said he gave me a \$50 and I gave him change for a \$20." He immediately started punching buttons, opening the drawer and quickly counting cash. In the middle of this flurry of activity, he was interrupted by another clerk needing help closing the door. He looked up twice from his counting to yell instructions and finally slammed the cash register shut, with two dollar bills dangling from the drawer, as he went to help out.

I asked Pam if this situation warranted so much anger. She told me, "Well, he had to count all the cash." Joe returned to his counting and began again where he had left off. Then shook his head, asked the clerk again what had happened and started to count the whole drawer again, just as quickly and furiously. At the end of the counting he was still confused about the situation and I had to explain to him that I was short \$30. I suggested that perhaps if everybody were not in such a huge hurry this would not have happened. He said, "I didn't do it." Then he walked around the counter with a piece of scratch paper and a pen and asked me my name. When I asked him why he wanted it, he explained that he had counted the register twice and it had come up even. If the books did not balance at the end of the day they would call me. I told him my name was Laura and when he was finished taking my number he turned and shouted to the clerk, "Let her out!"

I felt humiliated and degraded. I had gone in the store with \$50 and had come out with a \$30 package of brown sugar. There had been no apology for the gender confusion. I feel this particularly acutely, since I made a conscious choice to live in a gay and lesbian-friendly community. I would expect a store that derives its income from the gay and lesbian community to treat gender issues in a sensitive manner. Instead of being treated with respect, I was made to feel as if I were trying to rip off the store.

I continue to be appalled by the complete lack of respect shown me by these two employees of Cala Foods. At no time was I treated with even a hint that I might be right. I was consistently made to feel as if it were my mistake. There has been no follow-up call.

I live half a block from the store. I shop there frequently and I am disgusted by the complete lack of professionalism in the interaction and the lack of organization at the cash registers particularly in comparison with other neighborhood shops. It would have been so easy if Pam had made a very basic acknowledgment that I had handed her cash in payment, and if she had said "Change for a \$50" as she received my money. There are many simple acknowledgments that could have facilitated this simple transaction along the way, and that would not have resulted in my current desire to boycott this store.

I am entitled to the appropriate change for \$50 and I am further seeking acknowledgment that I am a valued customer of the store rather than a common thief.

Laura Pettibone
San Francisco

Gimme more than shelters

It's great that Leslie Katz has helped open up a few beds for queer homeless youth ("Beds found for homeless queer youth," December 31). But, as you said in your editorial ("The necessity is building," December 31), it's just a Band-Aid. Advocates have been working for years to secure a shelter for queer homeless youth in the Castro. The city has thrown up every barrier, as only bureaucrats and bureaucracies can.

Last year when the rains came, there was a temporary shelter space for queer homeless youth. This year there was nothing. The cold and the rains came and the kids were forgotten by the city. It took some persistent prodding from good folks such as Mitch over at the Collingwood Rec Center and those over at LYRIC to get those five beds. I'm not taking away from the fact that Katz's office secured those beds, but don't be fooled into thinking the problem is solved. It is not.

Not until, as your editorial so aptly put it, the "leaders" that we elect (and hopefully won't re-elect) "lead us out of this awful situation." And not just with shelters. We need affordable housing, we need the Presidio opened up (and not for war games, for Chrissakes!) and we need rents to come down so that young people and old people and low-income people can afford this city again.

Five beds in a shelter are a start. Not a solution. We need to keep on our politicians to make sure that every queer homeless kid, every homeless person period, in this city gets affordable housing, and a decent job to support him/herself.

Mayor Willie Brown's popularity is at an all-time low. Expect in the next few months that he and his allies will do many things to make it appear that he is doing something for the poor and the homeless. But don't settle for window dressing or Band-Aids. Let's demand what we need and deserve: affordable housing and living-wage jobs for all.

Tommi Avicilli Mecca
San Francisco

Relative (and friend) values

Over the past month, I had given many family members and friends a "credo" about my relationships.

This relationship can be for a family member, a friend, a lover, or a co-worker. This "credo" has touched everyone because of its meaning and values.

This was given to me back in 1986 by a friend, and today I would like to share it with a Bay Area gay/lesbian community, because we all need to respect each other a lot better than we do. There is too much abuse in our community and we need to realize what we are doing to each other.

"A Credo For My Relationships"

"You and I are in a relationship that is important to me, yet we are also separate persons with our own individual values and needs.

"So that we will better know and understand what each of us values and needs, let us always be open and honest in our communication.

"Whenever I'm prevented from meeting my needs by some action of yours, I will tell you honestly and without blame how I am affected, thus giving you the chance to modify your behavior out of respect for my needs. And I want you to be as open with me when my behavior is unacceptable to you.

"And when we experience conflict in our relationship let us agree to resolve each conflict without using power to win at the expense of the other losing. We will always search for a solution that meets both of our needs – neither will lose, both will win.

"Whenever you are experiencing a problem in your life, I will try to listen with acceptance and understanding in order to help you find your own solutions rather than imposing mine. And I want you to be a listener for me when I need to find solutions to my problems.

"Because ours will be a relationship that allows both of us to become what we are capable of being, we will want to continue relating to each other – with mutual concern, caring and respect."

Doug Christoff
San Francisco

What's wrong?

Re: "What's Hot in Hayes Valley," December 16: Sorry, darlings. There is no intersection of Hayes and Waller. Neither is there a "Hayes Boulevard," eponymous or not.

Jerry Read
San Francisco

[Editor's note: The word "boulevard" was lowercase, meaning "thoroughfare." But you're right about the intersection. It reminds us of Phyllis Diller's old joke: "I called my husband and said I'd been in a tiny accident at the corner of Oak and Market. He said, 'Market and Oak don't cross.' I said, 'They do now!' Ha HA!"]

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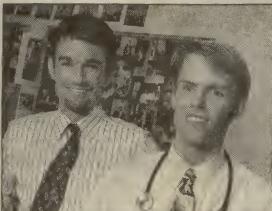
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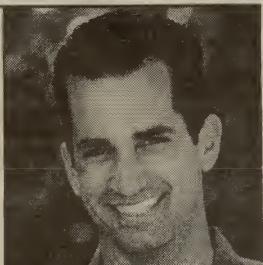


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Four of the signers onto the Defense of Marriage Act have since admitted to adultery. Congressman Barney Frank called it rank hypocrisy for them to have signed onto legislation that supposedly protects the institution of marriage by scapegoating lesbians and gay men.

I heard a news snippet of Harry Britt's speech on the anniversary of Harvey Milk's assassination, pointing out that Clinton would have resigned in disgrace if Monica had been male because of the profound homophobia still rampant in our country.

It did my heart wonderfully to hear these men speak; one with the power of oratory and one with the power of the office of Congressman! Thank you gentlemen! And may I hear a lot more from the both of you.

Francis Salmeri
San Francisco**Assume = Ass, u, me**

Apparently Mr. Betancourt ("Winning is tougher than filing," Mailstrom, December 24) still doesn't get it. This is a case about police arresting someone for being gay. That's the real issue: the police set up a decoy operation to arrest and harass gay men. If the real issue was about stopping people from having sex in the park, why were no "straight" people arrested for heterosexual sex, which occurs often in parks?

The real issue here is one of civil rights. That being the rights of Mr. Morales. Does Betancourt really believe that the Fresno police would have even arrested Morales if he was straight? Not a chance.

The whole point being, Mr. Morales and many men like him are being arrested and intimidated by police departments everyday, it's time for our community to fight back and say enough is enough.

For Betancourt to assume (divide the word into three parts) what was in Morales's mind is wrong. We can just go by the facts: Morales was arrested and *not charged* by the DA, therefore his arrest was unlawful and unjust, and most likely violated his civil rights.

Betancourt needs to understand that today it's the parks and bathrooms; tomorrow it's the bars and clubs, and next year it's your own private homes. Being gay should not and cannot make us a target for those who don't understand or don't want to understand us.

Bryan Silagy
Walnut Creek, CA**Ever try to give someone 'association'?**

In my letter, which you printed December 17, I divulged the address for the Implicit Association Test (incorrectly, I think I called it the Implicit Attitude Test! Tsk, tsk), a site for those who wish to take an objective test concerning any unconscious traits they may be manifesting regarding racism/ageism/self-esteem/sexism. Somehow, it was not correctly transcribed. Please show the correct address for those who may have had trouble accessing it. The correct URL is <http://depts.washington.edu/lat>

I urge all those who are part of an inter-ethnic couple or have close friendships with black (and white) men/women/children (and others) to take this test. The test is not "weighted" towards any specific group, and can readily point out the automatic preferences of blacks for other blacks as it shows the dominant preference of whites and blacks for whites. This means that many blacks have a subconscious, built-in preference for whites in contrast to a (presumably more common) interest in other blacks. This is by no means a definitive statement, but can lead to exploration of what types of stimulus leads people towards their preferences for friends and companions. It can definitely open up dialogues on inter-ethnic relationships (all types of relationships, not simply romantic). I do not use the word "race" purposely: *There is no such thing as race*. This is a belief I have propagated for nearly 20 years. Earlier this year, the Association of American Anthropologists, seemingly in agreement with me (where were they 20 years ago, when I was saying this?), released a statement saying that they had urged the U.S. Census Bureau to strike the term "race" from their form. Why?

Well, for the most obvious reason. They could not find a single characteristic that was indigenous to any one "race" that could not be found within another "race." Besides which, the genes for skin color account for six DNA molecules - out of 100,000. (I could be wrong, but I think hair color is determined by four molecules. Any geneticists who want to jump in here? Not exactly an overwhelming body of evidence in favor of the term "race," is it?)

It is for this reason - and my belief that if we do not soon coalesce into a united society with respect for each other's cultures, we will, if the signs continue, eventually destroy each other - I encourage people to honestly confront their subconscious beliefs by embracing the insight that this test has to offer. It is private, confidential, and ultimately freeing.

Proper nouns and pronouns

This is to protest the sloppy way in which the *Boston Globe*, the *Boston Herald*, and *Bay Windows* handled the report on the death of Rita Hester. Ms. Hester was a transsexual woman who was murdered in her own apartment on November 30, 1998. Despite the educational materials supplied these publications by the International Transgender Education Foundation (headquartered in Boston), all three papers made an alarming mistake.

They all listed Ms. Hester as "William" Hester, despite the fact that their reporters were told that "She wanted it to be known that her name was Rita... She let everybody know what she was about." The *Bay Windows* reporter even attended a meeting of activists at the Arlington Street Church where, to quote the *Bay Windows* article, "Many... expressed outrage with how the local media has been covering the murder, upset by initial reports in the *Boston Globe* and *Herald* that referred to 'Rita' as transgendered rather than transsexual, and disturbed with the papers' use of 'he' when referring to Hester."

Ms. Hester was no more in error about her gender than their reporters are about their own. To assume that they knew Ms. Hester better than she did herself, about such an essential part of her identity, shows appalling disrespect. As a Unitarian Universalist, someone who has entered a covenant to affirm the inherent dignity and worth of every person, I believe such disrespect is immoral. It is also dangerous.

For exercising her human right to live as the person she knew herself to be, and not perpetually in disguise, Rita Hester died. One such death is too many; reportage such as this, which does not acknowledge that transgendered people actually do know who they are, makes future murders more likely. Thousands of Americans are similarly at risk.

I hope you will see fit to keep track of this and similar stories in a more sensitive manner than the Boston papers did.

Bryne Golec
Castro Valley, CA

[Liz Highleyman covered the story for the B.A.R. December 16 ("Transgender community responds to murder near Boston"). All pronouns relating to Hester were feminine.]

The undisputed best... among three

I have been reading the B.A.R. for six years now and I want to say that the *Bay Area Reporter* is the best gay newspaper in the country. Now, I only have three papers to draw this conclusion from, but the B.A.R. is the best. The Washington, D.C. *Washington Blade* is so political that it is boring. There is no real local gay news. Denver's *Out Front* is so blah that it is boring as well. There is nothing controversial here. The gay life in Denver is boring and I have lived here for 35 years.

The B.A.R. covers local issues which makes the paper interesting. Most interesting are the letters to the editor. I laugh at most of them. I think to myself, the San Francisco gays have nothing better to do than write about nothing and everything.

Keep up the good work.

S. Calvin Riley
Denver, CO**MP x CS**

Re: "Mayor's letter to Clinton about AIDS ignores gays," December 30: Rather than rushing out to get another quote from Michael Petrelis, Cynthia Laird might have better spent a few moments on basics, like checking the facts. Had she done so, she might have learned that the Castro Mission Health Center isn't part of the San Francisco Community Clinic Consortium, but that Mission Neighborhood Health Center is. She might then have figured out that the letter accurately praised the services available at Mission Neighborhood Health Center.

But I guess the point, as is so often the case with Ms. Laird's work, was simply to put Michael Petrelis on center stage, again. You would think someone who spends so much time covering AIDS issues might be more familiar with AIDS organizations in town. Maybe if Ms. Laird spent some time looking or talking at those agencies, and less time talking to professional "AIDS victim" Petrelis, she might figure something out.

Christopher Hall
San Francisco

[We apologize for the error, but not for quoting Petrelis. Professional AIDS victim or not, he got the mayor's office to follow up with the president about the real problem of HIV disease in the gay community here. Petrelis has done more for the community than most of his detractors who would like to crowd him off center stage but are too lazy to do anything meaningful enough to do so. By the way, what's the last thing you've done to make the White House aware of the problems we face?]

Send letters to 395 Ninth Street, SF 94103.

Democrats take Sacto

by Wayne Friday

When Gray Davis took the oath of office Monday, January 4 as the 37th governor of California, he led a pack of power hungry Democrats to power in Sacramento the likes of which hasn't been seen since the days of Jerry Brown and his symbolic Plymouth sedan. Governor Davis (legal name: Joseph Graham Davis) brought to power with him fellow Democratic Lieutenant Governor Cruz Bustamante, Attorney General Bill Lockyer, and state Treasurer Phil Angelides. Incumbent state Controller Kathleen Connell and Superintendent of Public Instruction Delaine Eastin, both Democrats (though Eastin's post is officially "nonpartisan") joined in the party takeover of the state capital. In addition to sweeping the top statewide offices, Democrats also increased their majorities in both the Assembly and state Senate.

The two statewide GOP officeholders re-elected in November, Secretary of State Bill Jones and Insurance Commissioner Chuck Quackenbush, also took office again Monday, but must have clearly felt a bit overwhelmed as Democratic politicos, volunteers, and longtime party members took over Sacramento for a festive weekend that ended after Davis became the governor of the most populous state in the country.

Everyone who is anyone in Democratic politics managed to take in at least some part of the weekend's gubernatorial inaugural celebration, either an event honoring Davis or one of the numerous parties given by supporters of



Our Man Friday

Lockyer, Bustamante, or Angelides; several other parties were given by Democrats happy to the point of being giddy at being in control of the state government after such a long time. The three-day, \$3.7 million celebration honoring the new governor actually started last Saturday night with a Unity Ball at the Beverly Hilton in Los Angeles, attended by a slew of Hollywood types, plus Davis volunteers and supporters. That was followed by religious celebrations at a couple of Sacramento churches on Sunday, which in turn were followed by the Inaugural Gala at Sacramento's Arco Arena Sunday night.

Monday's actual inaugural took place before noon inside Sacramento's Memorial Auditorium, and there were dueling "Inaugural Balls" Monday night, both held at Cal Expo, where happy Democrats danced away the night, celebrating their newfound power.

Outgoing Governor Pete Wilson attended the Monday swearing-in ceremony, and then, we're told, quietly slipped out of town and was last seen Monday night having a quiet dinner in Beverly Hills with close friends, plotting a 2000 White House run, no doubt.

Make no mistake: it's a Democratic state capital now, and as one well-known local party regular put it this week, "Governor Davis will be good for us; we shouldn't expect miracles from the guy, but after 16 years of George Deukmejian and Pete Wilson, there is no place for this state to go but up!"



Cynthia Lard

Supergays: San Francisco's three gay supervisors, Mark Leno, Leslie Katz, and Tom Ammiano, (l-r), attended the rededication of the beautifully restored Beaux Arts City Hall Tuesday, January 5. Ammiano will be sworn in tomorrow as the city's second openly gay board president.

Congratulations, and best wishes to the new governor.

Politics and people

Other than the new governor himself, the biggest political stars in Sacramento at the inaugural seemed to be Al Gore and Senator Dianne Feinstein; both were besieged like aging rock stars everywhere they showed up. San Francisco Mayor Willie Brown and Assemblywoman Carole Migden were among the local political celebs getting a lot of attention in Sacto. Hey, you gotta know Migden is becoming a

star when she is the only member of the state Legislature to be asked two weeks ago what she planned to wear to the Davis bash (and there was already talk around Sacto during the weekend about a Migden run for state controller four years hence).

Sheila Kuehl of Santa Monica, the other openly lesbian member of the Assembly who was speaker pro tem of the Assembly during the last session, gave up that powerful post this session when she opted for a committee chairmanship; Migden, however, stays as the influential chair of the important Assembly Appropriations Committee.

Clout: Not only is Lieutenant Governor Bustamante the first Latino statewide officeholder in more than a century in the state, 11 new Latino lawmakers were sent to Sacramento in the November election, and for the first time ever, the leaders of both major parties in the Assembly are Latino: Democratic Speaker Antonio Villaraigosa and Republican Minority Leader Rod Pacheco.

Now, let me wish the best and once again congratulate one of the good guys - Tom Ammiano, who becomes president of the Board of Supervisors tomorrow.

Supervisor Jose Medina's appointment to head the California Department of Transportation means he will supervise nearly

18,000 state employees and go from his supe salary of \$35,000 to \$105,619 a year.

Mayor Brown gets to appoint yet another supervisor, and Police Commission President Dennis Herrera is the name I hear most mentioned.

To the surprise of no one, term-out "Independent" (?) former state Senator Quentin Kopp worked a San Mateo county superior court appointment from Pete Wilson as a last-minute payoff for his support of all those Republicans in November.

After the 2000 census, California will gain at least one new congressional seat; the Democratic-controlled Legislature gets to reapportion all House seats - after the new census and with a Democratic governor to approve the new lines, you can look for the California Republicans to lose a couple of House seats - possibly as many as four or five.

That special Assembly election set for February 2 in the East Bay (16th AD) is likely to get a bit nasty: former Oakland mayor Elihu Harris is battling Alameda County Demo heavyweight Frank Russo, an attorney, and two political unknowns; Harris, with endorsements from Senators Dianne Feinstein and Barbara Boxer, S. F. Mayor Willie Brown, Assembly Speaker Villaraigosa, and East Bay state Senator Don Perata, is the early favorite, but Russo has powerful endorsements as well from the likes of Bustamante and Assembly Leader Kevin Shelley.

As the U.S. Senate prepares to open the Clinton impeachment trial, probably as early as today, the right wing Clinton haters in the House (Tom DeLay, Dick Armey, Henry Hyde) are desperately trying to tell the Senate how to run the show. This thing could be over in less than two weeks if the president and his arrogant lawyers don't get cocky.

In Washington, some are saying that Georgia Representative Bob Barr, who has been pretty cozy with a group accused of being white supremacists, is one of the Capitol Hill's "meanest SOBs -

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PostAge

by Nancy Boutilier

Here we are in a post-modern, post-feminist, post-Ellen, post-ABL, post-New Year. I hear there is now post-rock, an experimental music which apparently has roots in Chicago, that would be a post-Bulls Chicago, in a post-NBA era. Now if we could only step into a post-bullsh*t age.

I still like rock. I miss Ellen and the ABL. My survival depends upon many of the principles of feminism. So, why is it that we are inundated with language that turns what paves the way today passé before its time? Are we post-Beanie Baby yet? Why didn't someone announce post-Barbieism years ago?

I would have preferred to be post-Monica long before we were post-Hillary. Then again, I would have preferred to be post-Bill long before we were post-Hillary.

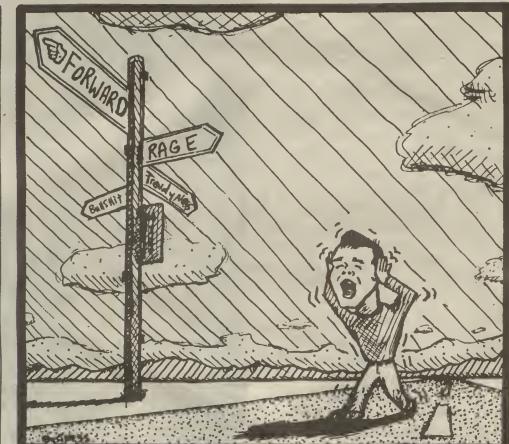
Shouldn't we have been post-Start as soon as we were post-Whitewater? Isn't that what he was charged to investigate?

I don't see post-bigotry on the near horizon, not when we have newspaper ads proclaiming folks to be "cured" by so-called conversion therapies into a "healed" state of post-gaydom. If you ask me, we can't be post-ex-gay soon enough.

Where is the post-weapons of mass destruction movement? Oh, of course, that's what the Washington folks would have us believe their bombing is about. Somehow our violent actions will issue in a less violent future. As if our bombs are somehow weapons of mass destruction, or weapons of massless destruction, or simply tools of the trade. I'm sure they have a phrase that makes the launch of a missile sound as comforting as a Furby.

A bumper sticker asks "If progress means to move forward, what does congress mean?" Accordingly, congress is post-progress, of course.

If clothes can make the man, as Shakespeare claimed and Oscar Wilde's wardrobe confirmed, then words can form the foundation of a truth. Mary Daly's reweaving of language in the creation of her webster's Wickedary certainly attest to the power of language. Then again, one need not go further than the B.A.R. letters to the editor to see that power in action. Why else has the storm not subsided over the use of the word "queer" in the G/L/B/T/Q press? It's one of those unfortunate arguments in which everyone's personal experience really does make them right. One can charge a word with pain, shame, defiance and pride, or any combination of those feelings - and the word queer proves it.



Jerry Bussey

Not to be outdone by Daly's tome, *The Oxford English Dictionary* has itself collecting possible new entries electronically with the Oxford Database of World English. I have not yet been invited to join the Oxford New Words Team (yes, there really is one) to determine which words make the final cut. However, if I have any powers

as a seer, it's not in reading tarot cards, runes, stars or even the flight of birds, but in divining language.

While the folks at Oxford have defined the recently-coined phrase Backward Compatibility as "the ability of a new product to be used in conjunction with old technology," I believe it better describes the relationships that one carries on with his/her ex-lovers, or perhaps we should say post-lovers.

Then there is Uplift Anxiety, a term that the Brits have discovered here in the USA (on the same list that defines duh! as an "expression of mocking disbelief over someone else's folly") for the psychological problems that arise from being cured of depression.

What they forget to define is the changing nature of one of the corollaries to Uplift Anxiety, which was once known as abduction-phobia, the fear of abduction, which in an *X-Files* age was thought to be an irrational fear. However, the off-shoot of abduction-phobia is the newly coined Abduction Anxiety, which in this post-Matthew Shepard age, is a fear too well-founded for my comfort.

Speaking of phobias, the English have developed a new one of their own, homophobia. It is a "severe hostility towards the Millennium Dome," Britain's official center for celebration of the year 2000, located in Greenwich, England.

The more American relative that I'm familiar with is DOMA-phobia, the severe hostility towards the Defense of Marriage Act and all those who supported it.

While on a political lexicon, Oxford didn't overlook the gates - zippergate, troopergate, Monica-gate, fornicate - to which I must add another offense of excess, Bill Gates.

The Oxford folks have chosen not to adopt the bumper sticker etymology that appeared recently on a passing fender: "Politics - from Poly meaning many and Ticks as in small, blood-sucking parasites."

Oh, and of course the very word fender used to make me think guitars, but if we're post-rock, we must be post-guitar by now. So I'm stuck with that other connotation, fender-bender, from a time when fenders actually dented rather than bounced back to their plastic little selves. Nevertheless, there's nothing like a fender-bender in one's life to spark their ire into full-scale Road Rage, which is, of course, on the database along with, well, you name it, Smoker's Rage, Web Rage, Non-smoker's Rage, SFO rage, DMV rage, Muni rage, PG&E rage, it's all the rage ... and that, if you ask me, is a problem.

Now that all is said and defined, I have found one resolution for the post-1998 new year. Henceforth, in polite defiance of current fashion, I shall resist the urge to let my rage fall prey to trendiness. I will talk of road rub, web wedgies, and airline air-itation.

It seems counterproductive to let the irritations of our lives determine our rage. There's so much more to be irate about - consenting sexual activities are still being prosecuted in the land of the free, gay men and lesbians still being hounded out of the military, gay awareness week can still prompt thugs to put their homophobias into action by queer-bashing, people in the land of opportunity cannot afford housing or medical care, too many schools continue to breed intolerance as well as illiteracy.

Make a list of your own. Send it to me. Let's save our rage for the truly outrageous. And let's find the courage and creativity to turn our emotion into productive action. ▼



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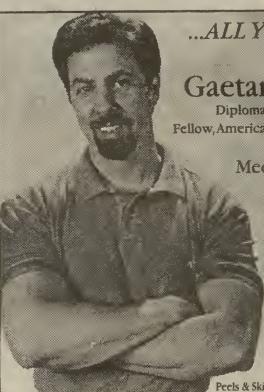
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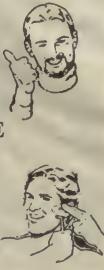
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Russian River

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igation, Brown, who is also a long-time friend of Grahmann and his Realtor for 20 years, last month offered a \$25,000 reward for information leading to a conviction. Recently he raised the reward to \$100,000.

But Pinola said the offer of a reward has not yet produced any tangible results.

"We are following up all leads,

but we aren't getting a whole lot of people calling with useful information," Pinola explained.

In a telephone interview Wednesday, Brown said he has talked with a former FBI agent who plans to hire to investigate the case if police efforts continue to be fruitless. Brown said he is particularly concerned that police have not yet received the results of tests performed on evidence found at the scene of the crime. According to Pinola, the crime

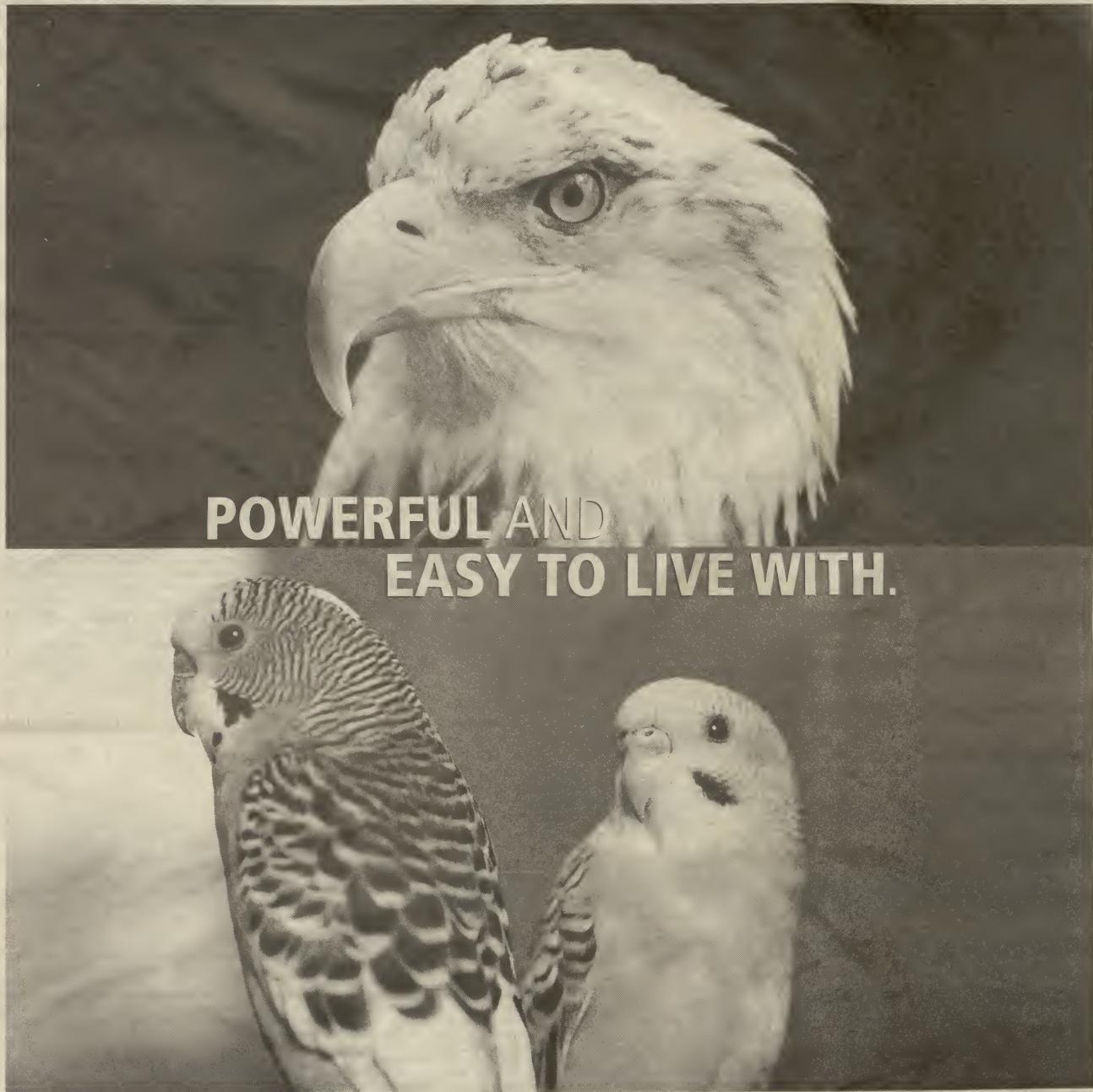
labs that process the evidence are overwhelmed with work from other homicide cases, and it will be "at least a couple of months" before the results come back.

But Pinola emphasized that the sheriff's department is continuing to conscientiously pursue the investigation.

"This case is not something we've put on the shelf," he said. "It's something we have to be very cautious about" in order to make it stick in court. ▼

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clinical trials. **VIRACEPT WORKS** It's indicated for the treatment of HIV infection when anti-HIV drug longer or reduce the number of infections or other illnesses that can occur with HIV. Some common medications and some HIV related

medications should not be taken with VIRACEPT. For some people, protease inhibitors have been associated with the onset or worsening of diabetes mellitus and hyperglycemia, and with increased bleeding in patients with hemophilia. Ask your doctor. For more information, call toll free **1-888-VIRACEPT** or visit www.agouron.com. (Refer to the important information on the next page.)

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Information for Patients About VIRACEPT® (VI-ra-cept) Generic Name: nelfinavir (nel-FIN-na-veer) mesylate

For the Treatment of Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) Infection

Please read this information carefully before taking VIRACEPT. Also, please read this leaflet each time you renew the prescription, just in case anything has changed. This is a summary and not a replacement for a careful discussion with your doctor. You and your doctor should discuss VIRACEPT when you start taking this medication and at regular checkups. You should remain under a doctor's care when taking VIRACEPT and should not change or stop treatment without first talking with your doctor.

WHAT IS VIRACEPT AND HOW DOES IT WORK?

VIRACEPT is used in the treatment of people with human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infection. Infection with HIV leads to the destruction of CD4 T cells, which are important to the immune system. After a large number of CD4 cells have been destroyed, the infected person develops acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS).

VIRACEPT works by blocking HIV protease (a protein-cutting enzyme), which is required for HIV to multiply. VIRACEPT has been shown to significantly reduce the amount of HIV in the blood. You should be aware, however, that the effect of VIRACEPT on HIV in the blood has not been correlated with long-term health benefits. Patients who took VIRACEPT also had significant increases in their CD4 cell count.

VIRACEPT is usually taken together with other antiretroviral drugs such as Retrovir® (zidovudine, AZT), Epivir® (lamivudine, 3TC), or Zerit® (stavudine, d4T). Taking VIRACEPT in combination with other antiretroviral drugs reduces the amount of HIV in the body (viral load) and raises CD4 counts.

VIRACEPT may be taken by adults, adolescents, and children 2 years of age or older. Studies in infants younger than 2 years of age are now taking place.

DOES VIRACEPT CURE HIV OR AIDS?

VIRACEPT is not a cure for HIV infection or AIDS. The long-term effects of VIRACEPT are not known at this time. People taking VIRACEPT may still develop opportunistic infections or other conditions associated with HIV infection. Some of these conditions are pneumonia, herpes virus infections, *Mycobacterium avium* complex (MAC) infections, and Kaposi's sarcoma.

It is not known whether VIRACEPT will help you live longer or reduce the number of infections or other illnesses that may occur.

There is no proof that VIRACEPT can reduce the risk of transmitting HIV to others through sexual contact or blood contamination.

WHO SHOULD OR SHOULD NOT TAKE VIRACEPT?

Together with your doctor, you need to decide whether VIRACEPT is appropriate for you. In making your decision, the following should be considered:

Allergies: If you have had a serious allergic reaction to VIRACEPT, you must not take VIRACEPT. You should also inform your doctor, nurse, or pharmacist of any known allergies to substances such as other medicines, foods, preservatives, or dyes.

If you are pregnant: The effects of VIRACEPT on pregnant women or their unborn babies are not known. If you are pregnant or plan to become pregnant, you should tell your doctor before taking VIRACEPT.

If you are breast-feeding: You should discuss with your doctor the best way to feed your baby. You should be aware that if your baby does not already have HIV, there is a chance that it can be transmitted through breast-feeding. Women should not breast-feed if they have HIV.

Children: VIRACEPT is available for the treatment of children 2 through 13 years of age with HIV. There is a powder form of VIRACEPT that can be mixed with milk, baby formula, or foods like pudding. Instructions on how to take VIRACEPT powder can be found in a later section that discusses how VIRACEPT Oral Powder should be prepared.

If you have liver disease: VIRACEPT has not been studied in people with liver disease. If you have liver disease, you should tell your doctor before taking VIRACEPT.

Other medical problems: Certain medical problems may affect the use of VIRACEPT. Some people taking protease inhibitors have developed new or more serious diabetes or high blood sugar. Some people with hemophilia have had increased bleeding. It is not known whether the protease inhibitors caused these problems. Be sure to tell your doctor if you have hemophilia types A and B, diabetes mellitus, or an increase in thirst and/or frequent urination.

CAN VIRACEPT BE TAKEN WITH OTHER MEDICATIONS?

VIRACEPT may interact with other drugs, including those you take without a prescription. You must discuss with your doctor any drugs that you are taking or are planning to take before you take VIRACEPT.

Drugs you should not take with VIRACEPT:

- Seldane® (terfenadine, for allergies)
- Hismanal® (astemizole, for allergies)
- Propulsid® (cisapride, for heartburn)
- Cordarone® (amiodarone, for irregular heartbeat)
- Quinidine (for irregular heartbeat), also known as Quinaglute®, Cardioquin®, Quinidex®, and others
- Ergot derivatives (Cafergot® and others, for migraine headache)
- Halcion® (triazolam)
- Versed® (midazolam)

Taking the above drugs with VIRACEPT may cause serious and/or life-threatening adverse events.

• Rifampin (for tuberculosis), also known as Rimactane®, Rifadin®, Rifater®, or Rifamate®. This drug reduces blood levels of VIRACEPT.

Dose reduction required if you take VIRACEPT with:

Mycobutin® (rifabutin, for MAC); you will need to take a lower dose of Mycobutin.

A change of therapy should be considered if you are taking VIRACEPT with:

- Phenobarital
- Phenytoin (Dilantin® and others)
- Carbamazepine (Tegretol® and others)
- These agents may reduce the amount of VIRACEPT in your blood and make it less effective.
- Oral contraceptives ("the pill")

If you are taking the pill to prevent pregnancy, you should use a different type of contraception since VIRACEPT may reduce the effectiveness of oral contraceptives.

HOW SHOULD VIRACEPT BE TAKEN WITH OTHER ANTI-HIV DRUGS?

Taking VIRACEPT together with other anti-HIV drugs increases their ability to fight the virus. It also reduces the opportunity for resistant viruses to grow. Based on your history of taking other anti-HIV medicine, your doctor will direct you on how to take VIRACEPT and other anti-HIV medicines. These drugs should be taken in a certain order or at specific times. This will depend on how many times a day each medicine should be taken. It will also depend on whether it should be taken with or without food.

Nucleoside analogues: No drug interaction problems were seen when VIRACEPT was given with:

- Retrovir (zidovudine, AZT)
- Epivir (lamivudine, 3TC)
- Zerit (stavudine, d4T)
- Videx® (didanosine, ddI)

If you are taking both Videx (ddI) and VIRACEPT: Videx should be taken without food, on an empty stomach. Therefore, you should take VIRACEPT with food one hour after or more than two hours before you take Videx.

Nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitors (NNRTIs):

When VIRACEPT is taken together with:

- Viramune® (nevirapine)

The amount of VIRACEPT in your blood may be reduced. Studies are now taking place to learn about the safety of combining VIRACEPT with Viramune.

- Other NNRTIs

VIRACEPT has not been studied with other NNRTIs.

Other protease inhibitors:

When VIRACEPT is taken together with:

- Crixivan® (indinavir)

The amount of both drugs in your blood may be increased. Currently, there are no safety and efficacy data available from the use of this combination.

- Norvir™ (ritonavir)

The amount of VIRACEPT in your blood may be increased. Currently, there are no safety and efficacy data available from the use of this combination.

- Invirase® (saquinavir)

The amount of saquinavir in your blood may be increased. If used in combination with saquinavir hard gelatin capsules at 600 mg three times daily, no dose adjustments are needed. Currently, there are no safety and efficacy data available from the use of this combination.

WHAT ARE THE SIDE EFFECTS OF VIRACEPT?

Like all medicines, VIRACEPT can cause side effects. Most of the side effects experienced with VIRACEPT have been mild to moderate. Diarrhea is the most common side effect in people taking VIRACEPT, and most adult patients had at least mild diarrhea at some point during treatment. In clinical studies, about 20% of patients receiving VIRACEPT 750 mg (three tablets) three times daily had four or more loose stools a day. In most cases, diarrhea can be controlled using antidiarrheal medicines, such as Imodium® A-D (loperamide) and others, which are available without a prescription.

Other side effects that occurred in 2% or more of patients receiving VIRACEPT include abdominal pain, asthenia, nausea, flatulence, and rash.

There were other side effects noted in clinical studies that occurred in less than 2% of patients receiving VIRACEPT. However, these side effects may have been due to other drugs that patients were taking or to the illness itself. Except for diarrhea, there were not many differences in side effects in patients who took VIRACEPT along with other drugs compared with those who took only the other drugs. For a complete list of side effects, ask your doctor, nurse, or pharmacist.

HOW SHOULD I TAKE VIRACEPT?

VIRACEPT is available only with your doctor's prescription. The light blue VIRACEPT Tablets should be taken three times a day. VIRACEPT should always be taken with a meal or a light snack. You do not have to take VIRACEPT exactly every 8 hours. Instead, you can take it at normal times when you are eating.

Take VIRACEPT exactly as directed by your doctor. Do not increase or decrease any dose or the number of doses per day. Also, take this medicine for the exact period of time that your doctor has instructed. Do not stop taking VIRACEPT without first consulting with your doctor, even if you are feeling better.

Only take medicine that has been prescribed specifically for you. Do not give VIRACEPT to others or take medicine prescribed for someone else.

The dosing of VIRACEPT may be different for you than for other patients. Follow the directions from your doctor, exactly as written on the label. The amount of VIRACEPT in the blood should remain somewhat consistent over time. Missing doses will cause the concentration of VIRACEPT to decrease; therefore, you should not miss any doses. However, if you miss a dose, you should take the dose as soon as possible and then take your next scheduled dose and future doses as originally scheduled.

Dosing in adults (including children 14 years of age and older)

The recommended adult dose of VIRACEPT is 750 mg (three tablets) taken three times a day. Each dose should be taken with a meal or light snack.

Dosing in children 2 through 13 years of age

The VIRACEPT dose in children depends on their weight. The recommended dose is 20 to 30 mg/kg (or 9 to 14 mg/pound) per dose, taken three times daily with a meal or light snack. This can be administered either in tablet form or, in children unable to take tablets, as VIRACEPT Oral Powder.

Dose instructions will be provided by the child's doctor. The dose will be given three times daily using the measuring scoop provided, a measuring teaspoon, or one or more tablets depending on the weight and age of the child. The amount of oral powder or tablets to be given to a child is described in the chart below.

Pediatric Dose to Be Administered Three Times Daily

Body Weight	Number of Level Scoops*	Number of Level Teaspoons*	Number of Tablets
Kg	Lb		
7 to < 8.5	15.5 to <18.5	4	1
8.5 to <10.5	18.5 to <23	5	1 1/4
10.5 to <12	23 to <26.5	6	1 1/2
12 to <14	26.5 to <31	7	1 3/4
14 to <16	31 to <35	8	2
16 to <18	35 to <39.5	9	2 1/4
18 to <23	39.5 to <50.5	10	2 1/2
≥23	≥50.5	15	3 3/4

In measuring oral powder, the scoop or teaspoon should be level.

* 1 level scoop contains 50 mg of VIRACEPT. Use only the scoop provided with your VIRACEPT bottle.

* 1 level teaspoon contains 200 mg of VIRACEPT. Note: A measuring teaspoon used for dispensing medication should be used for measuring VIRACEPT Oral Powder. Ask your pharmacist to make sure you have a medication dispensing teaspoon.

How should VIRACEPT Oral Powder be prepared?

The oral powder may be mixed with a small amount of water, milk, formula, soy formula, soy milk, dietary supplements, or dairy foods such as pudding or ice cream. Once mixed, the entire amount must be taken to obtain the full dose.

Do not mix the powder with any acidic food or juice, such as orange or grapefruit juice, apple juice, or apple sauce, because this may create a bitter taste.

Once the powder is mixed, it may be stored at room temperature or refrigerated for up to 6 hours. Do not heat the mixed dose once it has been prepared.

Do not add water to bottles of oral powder.

VIRACEPT powder is supplied with a scoop for measuring. For help in determining the exact dose of powder for your child, please ask your doctor, nurse, or pharmacist.

VIRACEPT Oral Powder contains aspartame, a low-calorie sweetener, and therefore should not be taken by children with phenylketonuria (PKU).

HOW SHOULD VIRACEPT BE STORED?

Keep VIRACEPT and all other medicines out of the reach of children. Keep bottle closed and store at room temperature (between 59° and 86°F) away from sources of moisture such as a sink or other damp place. Heat and moisture may reduce the effectiveness of VIRACEPT.

Do not keep medicine that is out of date or that you no longer need. Be sure that if you throw any medicine away, it is out of the reach of children.

Discuss all questions about your health with your doctor. If you have questions about VIRACEPT or any other medication you are taking, ask your doctor, nurse, or pharmacist. You can also call 1.888.VIRACEPT (1.888.847.2237) toll free.

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Ken Turner steps down from AEF, is new prez at Project Inform

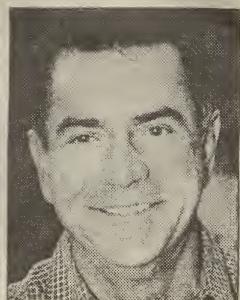
by Cynthia Laird

Ken Turner has helped lead the AIDS Emergency Fund (AEF) for over four years, but last week he resigned from the AIDS service organization's (ASO) board of directors, saying he needed to take a leave of absence from that organization as he's now the president of the board for San Francisco-based Project Inform. His becoming board president is one in a series of changes underway at Project Inform, a HIV/AIDS treatment advocacy organization that offers information to thousands of callers from across the country.

"It's more of a leave of absence," Turner told the *Bay Area Reporter*, Monday, January 3, referring to his decision to step down from AEF. Turner, who most recently served as treasurer but was also vice president and president during his tenure, praised the organization's new treasurer, Timothy White and AEF's new president, Rick Salinas, who's back in the top post. Salinas previously served as AEF's president from 1990 to 1993.

"Ken will be sorely missed. He's been so much part of AEF the last five years. His abilities are going to be missed. He's a terrific person," Salinas told the *B.A.R.*

Turner, a certified public accountant by profession, said one of his biggest accomplishments while on the AEF board was getting the city's HIV Health Services Planning Council to "pay attention to us." The planning council, which prioritizes and allocates the city's portion of federal Ryan White CARE Act funds, created a direct emergency financial assistance category so that AEF could receive CARE funds. AEF provides emergency help to its clients in the form of grants that are paid directly to the client's landlord, or for other bills, such as telephone or electricity. In 1998, AEF paid out an estimated \$1.6 million to 3,000 clients in San Francisco and some surrounding counties. Of the total dollars, some \$776,000 came from the planning council in the form of a special one-time allocation. The organization has



Ken Turner

one of the lowest administrative overheads of any local ASO and no paid executive director.

"We had to have those major grants," Turner said, referring to the CARE allocations.

Turner also discussed the changes that have occurred at AEF over the last year. Most notably, he said, was the realization both within AEF as well as the community that outlying counties that received AEF funds to provide grants to clients outside of San Francisco were not helping raise money for the organization.

"A lot of counties we were serving were not financially supporting us," said Turner.

As a result, in December 1997 a community meeting was held and afterwards, AEF decided to cut off services to some outlying counties. Clients in others, like Alameda, saw the old annual grant amount of \$400 reduced to \$300. AEF had received some CARE funds from Alameda County but that too, has changed. In a November letter from the Oakland Office of AIDS, Ronald Person, administrative officer, informed AEF that the group would not be receiving CARE funds this year.

Sonoma County was also affected by AEF's decision to stop serving outlying counties that raised no money. However, over the past year, an agreement was worked out whereby AEF provided a one-time grant of \$38,500 to the newly formed AEF/Sonoma County Coalition. That group will now set up a program like AEF and serve clients in that North Bay

community. Sonoma County had also raised money on its own over the last year so that they could receive the grant from AEF.

During 1997, AEF saw annual grant amounts go from \$400 back to \$500, which was the original annual grant amount, and then to \$600 for San Francisco clients until next month.

Last month at AEF's annual community meeting, the board received strong support from those in attendance to start a similar grant program for low income women living with breast cancer. Funds for such a program would be separate from the money for HIV/AIDS clients and only new money specifically earmarked for the AEF Breast Cancer Project would be used. Turner hopes that will become a reality; the AEF board is expected to vote on the proposal at its meeting Tuesday, January 12.

Last month, Turner said AEF could set up the program at virtually no increased cost. If the board decides to go ahead with getting breast cancer funds to distribute, the new fund could be run out of the same office, Turner explained.

"I hope it gets off the ground," he said. ▼

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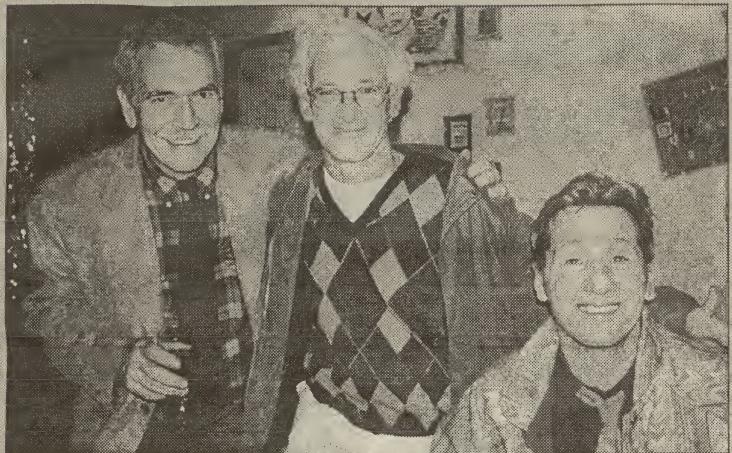
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The laughs stop here



The last show ever at Josie's Juice Joint and Cabaret on Saturday, January 2 at 10 p.m. featured stand-up comedy by Tom Ammiano (R.), who was both the first and last comic to perform on the venue's stage. With him at the grand finale were Josie's owner Ron Lanza (L.) and former gubernatorial candidate and medicinal pot promoter Dennis Peron.

Wild Card trumps counterfeiter

by Mark Norby

A few days after a counterfeiter tried to pass a phony \$10 bill at Tita's Restaurant on 17th Street in the Castro, a suspect handed over a \$100 bill Saturday, December 26 at Wild Card, a small gift emporium also located on 17th Street and sandwiched between several small shops and Castro homes.

The suspect is described as being a well-dressed, good-looking Latino male with a mustache in his 20s, 5 feet 8 inches tall with a muscular build, who was wearing a heavy dark jacket and jeans.

The man, who passed the bogus bill to Wild Card owner Philip Parr, tried to use it to pay for items priced at less than \$30. After Parr noticed that one side of the bill was bright green and the other smudged with charcoal, he refused to accept the bill. The man became rude and challenged Parr, insisting that the bill was a bona fide note.

Parr suggested to the suspect that they call the police but the suspect grabbed the bill and left the store. The San Francisco Patrol Special Police arrived moments later to write up a report on the incident.

Parr believes the suspect could be the same man who success-

ly passed a bad American Express international traveler's check in November. When Parr deposited the check in the bank, it was discovered that it had been altered from a \$10 to a \$100 check. In that incident, the suspect purchased greeting cards and left with the items and change from the phony check.

The San Francisco Patrol Special Police asks the public to immediately report counterfeit incidents by calling 911, or by alerting the patrol's police vans which are on duty in the Castro Sunday through Wednesday from 3 to 11 p.m., and Thursday through Saturday from 6:30 p.m. to 2:30 a.m. ▼

Our Man Friday

◀ page 9

this guy makes **Bob Dornan** look like a nice guy," in the words of a Democrat who knows Barr.

Barr, it should be noted, is the GOP attack dog who gave a speech on the House floor in favor of impeaching Clinton, and in doing so, used a quote from the late President **John Kennedy** to hammer home his point. After leaving the floor, the late president's nephew, Representative **Patrick Kennedy** (D-Rhode Island) confronted Barr, telling him

that "anyone speaking to a racist organization has no right invoking the name of my uncle," Barr, surrounded by a group of his burly aides, dismissed Kennedy, a youthful-looking 32-year-old, by referring to him as "boy."

Nearly a year after the news of the presidential sex scandal broke, Bill Clinton has been impeached, **Ken Starr** continues his endless, expensive investigation, and **Monica Lewinsky** has lined up a profitable book deal and a couple of high-paying television interviews, but the most despised woman in the nation, and the one who started it all by stabbing her "friend"

Lewinsky in the back, one **Linda Tripp**, remains the odd woman out. At an all-time low in public opinion polls (even Republicans laugh at her), Tripp's people are trying desperately to remake her, nose job, hairdo, and all (does the image of **Paula Jones** come to mind?) and are frantically looking for a book buyer for her. Tripp reportedly has no fewer than four attorneys and a public relations expert trying to project the image of the "new" Linda - (she's you, she's me, remember?) - and the evil woman released a new photo, 20 pounds lighter, and all.

And how was your week? ▼

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- July 12-24 "MS Massdam" from London (Harwich)
Russia, North Europe
Oslo, Arhus, Berlin, Stockholm, Helsinki, St. Petersburg
- August 1-13 "MS Ryndam" from Vancouver
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Ketchikan, Juneau, Sitka, Hubbard Glacier, Valdez and College Fjords; Land tour to Kenai Fjords Park, Anchorage, Fairbanks

- August 28-September 3 "MS Queen Elizabeth II" from New York
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Southampton, optional 3-night London weekend
- October 1-8 "MS Royal Viking Sun" from Rome
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- October 21-30 "MS Volendam" from New York
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Hot tub hold up

by Ron McGlashan, SFPD
Office of public affairs

December 23, 2000 block of Van Ness 5 p.m.: Customers at a hot tub spa were robbed by three men who entered the establishment and ordered everyone to the ground. One suspect pointed a weapon at three customers in the lobby of the establishment and demanded their wallets. The victims complied and no one was hurt. A total of \$800 was stolen.

Knifing in Hayes Valley

December 29, Gough and Turk streets, 4 p.m.: A man was attacked and in the Jefferson Square area. The victim called an ambulance from a pay phone, and police officers met the victim at San Francisco General Hospital. The victim stated that he

Correction

The "Mayor's letter to Clinton About AIDS ignores gays" article in the December 31, 1998 Bay Area Reporter incorrectly stated that the Mission Neighborhood Health Center and the Castro Mission Health Center are one and the same. They are not; the Castro Mission Health Center is formerly city Health Center #1, while the Mission Neighborhood Health Center is a separate entity. We apologize for the confusion.

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was stabbed by the suspect because he ignored the man.

Assault on Chestnut

December 16, Chestnut and Van Ness 8 a.m.: A man was jumped by three young men at this intersection. The victim said one of the suspects pretended to know him. The suspects caused damage to the victim's neck and back. Police and paramedics were called to the scene. No suspects were found in the area.

Blunt force on Larkin

December 14, O'Farrell and Larkin streets, 6 a.m.: A man was struck across the head by a flying bottle, thrown by an unknown suspect. The victim was in the care of San Francisco Fire Department paramedics when police arrived.

December 15, O'Farrell and Larkin, 9 p.m.: A similar incident occurred the next day at the same corner. The victim in this case was

struck across the head with a blunt object, causing severe head and inner ear damage. The victim scared off the attacker. Police and paramedics were called to the area, but no suspect was found. Residents are advised to be cautious late at night and early in the morning.

Pros on Polk

Some 10 individuals have been cited during the past week due to prostitution activity in the area. Officers will focus on this matter in the coming year, in response to the demands of merchants and residents in the area. ▼



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Some courses can be added by attending the first class meeting.

* FILM 21B and GLST 93 meet at the Phelan Campus, 50 Phelan Ave., SF 94112

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SUSTIVA, an NNRTI*, must be used in combination with other HIV drugs.

SUSTIVA is tough on HIV. It reduces the amount of virus in your blood and increases the number of CD4 cells. SUSTIVA can even be used in young children, 3 years of age or older. This is based on results from controlled clinical trials at 24 weeks. Presently, there are no results from controlled clinical trials showing the long-term effects of SUSTIVA.

SUSTIVA has manageable side effects. Most side effects are mild to moderate and can be managed. The most significant side effects associated with SUSTIVA therapy have been nervous system symptoms (dizziness, trouble sleeping, drowsiness, trouble concentrating and/or abnormal dreams) and rash. These usually subside within the first two to four weeks of treatment. In a small number of patients, rash may be serious. Taking SUSTIVA at bedtime may help make nervous system symptoms less noticeable.

Pregnancy should be avoided in women receiving SUSTIVA because birth defects have been seen in primates dosed with SUSTIVA. Barrier contraception should always be used in combination with other methods of contraception.

Talk to your doctor when you start taking SUSTIVA. SUSTIVA may change the effect of other medicines (including ones for HIV). Always tell your doctor if you are taking, starting or changing any prescription or non-prescription medicine when taking SUSTIVA. Your doctor may change your medicines or change their dose. You should discuss your prior medical conditions (such as mental illness, substance abuse, hepatitis, etc.) with your doctor before taking SUSTIVA.

We know that coping with HIV is difficult enough. Your treatment doesn't have to be. Ask your doctor about SUSTIVA. For more important information see the next page for Patient Information about SUSTIVA.

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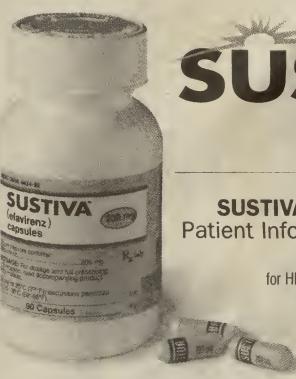
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Please read this information before you start taking SUSTIVA. Read it again each time you refill your prescription, in case there is any new information. Don't treat this leaflet as your only source of information about SUSTIVA. Always discuss SUSTIVA with your doctor when you start taking your medicine and at every visit. You should remain under a doctor's care when using SUSTIVA. You should not change or stop treatment without first talking to your doctor.

What is SUSTIVA?

SUSTIVA is a medicine used to help treat HIV, the virus that causes AIDS (acquired immune deficiency syndrome). SUSTIVA is a type of HIV drug called a "non-nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitor" (NNRTI).

How does SUSTIVA work?

SUSTIVA works by lowering the amount of HIV in the blood (called "viral load"). SUSTIVA must be taken with other anti-HIV medicines. When taken with other anti-HIV medicines, SUSTIVA has been shown to reduce viral load and increase the number of CD4 cells (a type of immune cell in blood). SUSTIVA may not have these effects in every patient.

Does SUSTIVA cure HIV or AIDS?

SUSTIVA is not a cure for HIV or AIDS. People taking SUSTIVA may still develop other infections associated with HIV. Because of this, it is very important that you remain under the care of your doctor.

Does SUSTIVA reduce the risk of passing HIV to others?

SUSTIVA has not been shown to reduce the risk of passing HIV to others. Continue to practice safe sex, and do not use or share dirty needles.

How should I take SUSTIVA?

- The dose of SUSTIVA for adults is 600 mg (three 200 mg capsules, taken together) once a day by mouth. The dose of SUSTIVA for children may be lower (see **Can children take SUSTIVA?**).
- Take SUSTIVA at the same time each day. You should take SUSTIVA at bedtime during the first few weeks or if you have side effects, such as dizziness or trouble concentrating (see **What are the possible side effects of SUSTIVA?**).
- Swallow SUSTIVA with water, juice, milk or soda. You may take SUSTIVA with or without meals; however, SUSTIVA should not be taken with a high fat meal.
- Do not miss a dose of SUSTIVA. If you forget to take SUSTIVA, take the missed dose right away. If you do miss a dose, do not double the next dose. Carry on with your regular dosing schedule. If you need help in planning the best times to take your medicine, ask your doctor or pharmacist.
- Take the exact amount of SUSTIVA your doctor prescribes. Never change the dose on your own. Do not stop this medicine unless your doctor tells you to stop.
- When your SUSTIVA supply starts to run low, get more from your doctor or pharmacy. This is very important because the amount of virus in your blood may increase if the medicine is stopped for even a short time. The virus may develop resistance to SUSTIVA and become harder to treat.

Can children take SUSTIVA?

Yes, children who are able to swallow capsules can take SUSTIVA. Rash may be a serious problem in some children. Tell your child's doctor right away if you notice rash or any other side effects while your child is taking SUSTIVA. The dose of SUSTIVA for children may be lower than the dose for adults. Capsules containing lower doses of SUSTIVA are available. Your child's doctor will determine the right dose based on your child's weight.

Who should not take SUSTIVA?

Do not take SUSTIVA if you are allergic to SUSTIVA or any of its ingredients.

What other medical problems or conditions should I discuss with my doctor?

Talk to your doctor right away if you:

- Are pregnant or want to become pregnant
- Are breast-feeding
- Have problems with your liver, or have had hepatitis
- Start or change any medicine
- Have side effects while taking SUSTIVA
- Have a history of mental illness, substance or alcohol abuse

What are the possible side effects of SUSTIVA (efavirenz)?

Many patients have dizziness, trouble sleeping, drowsiness, trouble concentrating, and/or unusual dreams a few hours after starting treatment with SUSTIVA. These feelings may be less noticeable if you take SUSTIVA at bedtime. They also tend to go away after you've taken the medicine for a few weeks. Rarely, patients have more serious side effects that may affect mood or ability to think clearly. These side effects occur more often in patients with a history of mental illness or substance abuse. Tell your doctor promptly if any of these side effects continue or if they bother you. There is the possibility that these symptoms may be more severe if SUSTIVA is used with alcohol or mood altering (street) drugs. You should avoid driving or operating machinery if you are having these side effects.

One of the most common side effects is rash. These rashes usually go away without any change in treatment. In a small number of patients, rash may be serious. If you develop a rash, call your doctor promptly.

Other common side effects include tiredness, upset stomach, vomiting, and diarrhea. However, this is not a complete list of side effects reported with SUSTIVA when taken with other anti-HIV drugs. Do not rely on this leaflet alone for information about side effects. Your doctor can discuss a more complete list of side effects with you.

Please contact your doctor immediately before stopping SUSTIVA because of side effects. Tell your doctor or other healthcare provider if you notice any side effects while taking SUSTIVA.

What about birth control, pregnancy, or breast-feeding?

Women should not become pregnant while taking SUSTIVA. Birth defects have been seen in animals treated with SUSTIVA. It is not known whether this could happen in humans. You should use a condom or diaphragm in addition to other methods of birth control while taking SUSTIVA. Inform your doctor immediately if you are pregnant. If you want to become pregnant, talk to your doctor. Do not take SUSTIVA if you are breast-feeding. Talk to your doctor if you are breast-feeding your baby.

Can I take other medicines with SUSTIVA?

SUSTIVA may change the effect of other medicines (including ones for HIV). Your doctor may change your medicines or change their doses. For this reason, it is very important to:

- Let all your doctors and pharmacists know that you take SUSTIVA.
- Tell your doctors and pharmacists about all medicines you take. This includes those you buy over-the-counter and herbal or natural remedies.

Bring all your medicines when you see a doctor, or make a list of their names, how much you take, and how often you take them. This will give your doctor a complete picture of the medicines you use. Then he or she can decide the best approach for your situation.

The following medicines may cause serious and life-threatening side effects when taken with SUSTIVA. You should not take any of these medicines while taking SUSTIVA.**

- Hismanal® (astemizole)
- Propulsid® (cisapride)
- Versed® (midazolam)
- Halcion® (triazolam)
- Ergot medications (for example, Wigraine® and Cafergol®)

The following medicines may need to be changed or have their dose changed when taken with SUSTIVA.**

- Crixivan® (indinavir)
- Fortovase® (saquinavir)
- Biaxin® (clarithromycin)

How should I keep SUSTIVA?

SUSTIVA is available as 50 mg, 100 mg, and 200 mg capsules.

Keep SUSTIVA at room temperature (77°F) in the bottle given to you by your pharmacist. The temperature can range from 59°-86°F.

Keep SUSTIVA out of the reach of children.

How can I learn more about SUSTIVA?

Talk to your doctor or other healthcare provider if you have questions about either SUSTIVA or HIV. For additional information you can visit the SUSTIVA website at <http://www.sustiva.com>.

This medicine was prescribed for your particular condition. Do not use it for any other condition or give it to anybody else. Keep SUSTIVA out of the reach of children. If you suspect that more than the prescribed dose of this medicine has been taken, contact your local poison control center or emergency room immediately.

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Media maverick

An interview with Fernando Quintero

by Patrick D. Hoctel

News Watch Project Director Fernando Quintero was born in Kerman, on the west side of California's Central Valley, 36 years ago. The youngest of five children of immigrant Mexican farm workers originally from Mazatlan, his childhood in Fresno County played a large part in his choice of a career in journalism: "From an early age, it was clear to me that the media's power and influence were great," he says.

"Recognizing that there was this bias, these stereotypes that I saw – this misrepresentation of people of color – I thought that getting directly involved in the industry and working to sensitize people would help."

Quintero studied journalism at California State University, Fresno, and after graduating from college, he came out and decided to move to San Francisco after interning at the *Fresno and Modesto Bee*. He temped, worked in retail, and then got a job with the State Employment Office, where he was a job counselor for youth. In 1987, he took part in a summer program for minority journalists at the University of California at Berkeley, which marked his entry into journalism.

What Quintero considers his first real newspaper job was at the *Albuquerque Tribune* as a reporter from 1987 to 1990. His last assignment there was as the assistant features editor. From 1990 to 1993, he reported for the *San Jose Mercury News*, and then he went back to Berkeley to work in their Office of Public Affairs as a writer and editor for their internal (faculty and staff) and external (alumni) publications. In December 1997, he became director of the News Watch Project.

After establishing his background, Quintero is eager to describe the project and his duties

there. Basically, he says, "We monitor media coverage of people of color and gays and lesbians, and we advocate for improved coverage of these communities. To that end, we publish a website [<http://newswatch.sfsu.edu>], which is updated every week, and it includes news analysis of coverage of the communities that we focus on. So it's more topical. We'll have stories on *that week's* news. We publish a quarterly journal [of which Quintero is editor], and that takes a more in-depth look at coverage issues."

Perhaps anticipating the next logical question, Quintero rushes on to explain more precisely what "advocate" means in this instance: "Right now, we're in a coalition-building mode with journalists of color and gay and lesbian journalists, as well as editors. What we're trying to do is build a coalition of all these groups to really go to industry leaders – station managers, newspaper publishers, decision-makers – to effect change. Rather than us [News Watch] going directly to them, we're working to build a momentum. That's our approach.

"We're all about bringing things to editors' and reporters' attention, and creating dialogue about coverage issues. We're not about saying, 'This is right. This is wrong. This is what you need to do.' We're not the final arbiters of anything. We're getting people to talk about coverage of underrepresented communities, because just like race – when Clinton was talking about how difficult it is for Americans to talk about racial problems and issues – that same thing applies in journalism. It's hard to get journalists to talk about prejudice and racism and homophobia in coverage within their own newspapers."

Rainbow of Color?

At first, perhaps because he works with the gay press as well as

mainstream media and doesn't wish to offend, Quintero appears a bit reluctant to discuss just how good a job he thinks gay media outlets do on reporting on people of color. However, after some cajoling, he warms to the topic. "We see gaps, some problems, within the gay media, as well as the mainstream. They're different problems, though. We recently took a look at the gay media [*"Rainbow of Color?"* *News Watch*, Summer 1998] and saw that there was a lack of people of color, a lack of representation. For the mainstream media, that perpetuates this idea that gay issues are white issues. At News Watch, we advocate for diversity in all media – mainstream, gay and lesbian, ethnic. What we're trying to do is to build, again, a solidarity among people of color and gays and lesbians, because from our point of view, we're all in the same boat."

Spreading his large hands across the pile of papers on his desk, Quintero seems momentarily frustrated at the complexity of all this and clears his throat before continuing in earnest. "The mainstream media covers the gay and lesbian community in a stereotypical way. There's a lack of context in stories about the gay community – an example being this PR blitz by Exodus [International, the "ex-gay" counseling-for-hire group] that was able to get *Time* and *Newsweek* and just the entire country debating this whole ques-



Media rarity: Fernando Quintero

color and gays and lesbians is getting better, at least in some respects. "Everyone seems to be making an effort to improve. The idea of diversity is out there. It's a market-driven motivation. Newspapers and television stations are aware that people of color also tune in and that advertisers are after them. Some are seeing the light and seeing that they have to do the right thing, and others are looking at the demographics and the market. So I do think that it's improving in terms of representation of people of color and the number of stories about the gay and lesbian community. The problem is that the approach to being more inclusive and being more diverse in coverage isn't always the best."

"A prime example is the periodic rash of public sex stories. Sure, you can say you're *including* the gay and lesbian community, but look *how* you're including them."

Quintero fields a call from a co-worker, and then over sirens blaring down Market Street, segues into talking about how his background helped shape what he is today: "I am a product of affirmative action, so I think that my belief in diversity came from my experience in having grown up in an area where there was a lot of prejudice and bias and discrimination, and then having opportunities in college to gain intern-

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A Proud Member of the Golden Gate Business Association

Therese Stewart named BASF president

Lesbian business litigator first openly gay head of major metropolitan bar

by Vicky Kolakowski

Therese M. Stewart was sworn in as president of the Bar Association of San Francisco (BASF) on December 18, making her the first openly lesbian or gay attorney to serve as head of a major metropolitan bar association.

BASF is the second largest metropolitan bar association in California, with about 9,000 members.

"It's only one example demonstrating that in this area [San Francisco] lesbian and gay people who are out can achieve prominent positions of leadership in mainstream organizations," Stewart told the *Bay Area Reporter*.

Stewart achieved such a position by excelling in three areas: as a litigator on behalf of her corporate clients; as a volunteer leader, working on behalf of the poor, women, people of color, people with disabilities and gay and lesbian people; and as a reformer of the legal profession.

A 1981 graduate of Boalt Hall School of Law, Stewart was awarded the Order of the Coif, a prestigious academic honor, and served as editor-in-chief of the *Ecology Law Quarterly*. She then clerked for a year for the Honorable Judge Phyllis A. Kravitch of the United States Court of Appeals for the 11th Circuit, before joining the 125-attorney San Francisco law firm Howard, Rice, Nemrovsky, Canady, Falk & Rabkin in 1981.

Now a partner at Howard Rice,

Stewart has developed a reputation as an outstanding business trial and appellate attorney. Unlike many other successful attorneys, she has practiced at the same firm for her entire career, where she has held major firm leadership positions. Stewart has also taught as an adjunct professor at Boalt and as a continuing education instructor for other practicing attorneys.

Volunteer and bar association leader

What distinguishes Stewart from most other large-firm attorneys is her dedication to pro bono and volunteer work, as well as a commitment to the improvement of the legal profession. "I've always believed that providing pro bono legal services is a basic responsibility of every lawyer,"



Romanne Photography

Therese M. Stewart

Stewart said.

Stewart is presently vice president of the Legal Aid Society of

San Francisco, and has participated in several major pro bono cases. She won a class action lawsuit against the Franchise Tax Board involving the renter's tax credit, which resulted in tens of millions of dollars being paid to low-income parents.

Among her pro bono projects are representation on behalf of lesbian and gay people. Stewart assisted the Employment Law Center in obtaining a favorable settlement of a discrimination case brought by a lesbian police officer in Sacramento, and is currently assisting the San Francisco City Attorney's office in defending lawsuits brought against the City's equal benefits ordinance.

Stewart has been a long-time leader in BASF. She organized and chaired BASF's Committee on Gay and Lesbian Issues (known as

COGLI, now named the Committee on Sexual Orientation Issues) in 1990 and 1991. She served on BASF's Equality, Minority Hiring, and Conference of Delegates executive committees, and on BASF's board of directors from 1992 to 1993. She has been an officer of BASF since 1995.

Through her leadership with BASF's COGLI and in concert with other lesbian and gay attorneys, Stewart helped attain adoption and implementation of a set of proposed guidelines for law firms to become more inclusive of gay and lesbian attorneys and staff.

"The Bar has accomplished a lot," Stewart told the *B.A.R.*, citing those guidelines and her election as signs of the local legal community's progress.

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Support groups focus on building, rebuilding gay lives

by Mark Norby

Spectrum Center for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Concerns, and Haight Ashbury Psychological Services (HAPS) announce the formation of new 1999 support groups that focus on managing and strengthening the lives of those affected by challenges in a challenging world.

HAPS, a low-fee clinic serving the people of San Francisco, will start a 10-week supportive/expressive group this month for

those living with a life-threatening illness.

"In an atmosphere of comfort and trust," says intern psychologist Nancy Hoffman, "the group will offer support for the psychological and physical distress that accompanies a life-threatening illness. Each member will have an opportunity to express this distress and re-examine their lives in light of their illness with the goal of living life as fully as possible."

The group will meet Tuesday nights from 7 to 8:30 p.m.

"We believe that illness pro-

vides an opportunity for personal growth and enhanced quality of life," Hoffman says, "and we are looking for people who would like to explore this further."

For the Spectrum Center in San Anselmo, the new year begins with two different support groups. The first is a coming-out group offering participants the opportunity to share experiences on the coming out process, focusing on the fears and feelings and the facts important to building a life and "getting essential support in the process," says group leader Gail Hromadko.

"The groups are an opportunity to learn and are important for those who have newly discovered their sexual identity," Hromadko states. Open to all living in the wider Bay Area, the coming-out groups are scheduled to begin this month.

The second is a grief group, a

12-week program also scheduled to begin this month, concentrating on supportive psychotherapy for men and women who have experienced the loss of a partner through death. Led by Jacqueline Ladrech, a counselor with 15 years experience in grief work, the group will meet Fridays from 4 to 5 p.m. at the Spectrum center in the North Bay. ▼

Haight Ashbury Psychological Services (HAPS) is located at 2166 Hayes Street in San Francisco. Call (415) 221-4211, ext. 2. **Spectrum Center for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Concerns** is located at 1000 Sir Francis Drake Boulevard in San Anselmo. Reach the center by calling (415) 457-1115, and check out their website at www.SpectrumMarin.org.

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Catholic groups pledge to end anti-gay violence

by Bob Roehr

The murder of Matthew Shepard "has pierced the hearts of our nation and opened the eyes of many to the prejudice, discrimination, harassment, and violence that gay and lesbian people experience," read the full page ad in the December 30 edition of the *New York Times*.

The ad was cosponsored by New Ways Ministry, a national Catholic ministry working for justice and reconciliation of lesbians and gays within the Catholic Church. It was joined by Pax Christi USA, a Catholic organization pledged to non-violence.

"We call on all Catholics and people of goodwill to look into their hearts and weed out violent perceptions and behaviors," it said, and also called upon "Church leaders to speak boldly" in defense of gays and lesbians.

More than 2,000 individuals and organizations signed the ad. Among them were nine bishops and 30 religious orders.

New Ways had long decided that they wanted to do a joint pro-

ject with Pax Christi, said Executive Director Francis DeBernardo. Then, at a regular board meeting a few days after Shepard's death, they discussed a prayer card "as a way to remind Catholics to pray for an end to violence against gay and lesbian people."

A few days later in the middle of a conversation, "a light bulb went off in my head"—the idea of an ad in the *Times*. Pax Christi quickly agreed to co-sponsor it. The groups mailed about 20,000 letters asking people to add their name in support and suggested a \$25 contribution. They set a 30-day deadline for responses.

More than 2,000 individuals and organizations met the December 18 date and responses continue to trickle in. "There wasn't an underwriter," DeBernardo said. The "standby" rate of \$32,300 for the unscheduled ad was entirely paid for with small, grassroots contributions.

"I think the Matthew Shepard incident touched a nerve in a lot of people," he said. "It really opened people's eyes to the fact that gay and lesbian people experience similar types of violence in their lives."

Death penalty questioned in Shepard murder

United Press International

The attorney defending one of the two men charged in the slaying of a gay University of Wyoming student says he believes the prosecution's request for the death penalty is politically motivated.

The *Billings Gazette* of Billings, Montana, reported Wednesday, December 30 that Wyatt Skaggs, attorney for Russell Henderson, says prosecutor Cal Rerucha has tried equally heinous cases without asking for the death penalty.

Henderson and Aaron McKinney, both 21, are charged with first-degree murder, kidnapping, and the beating death of 21-year-old Matthew Shepard, who was pistol-whipped and left hanging on a fence to die.

Rerucha filed notices of intent to seek the death penalty against

both defendants on December 28. "To request the death penalty on an individual like Russell who does not have a significant criminal record and who does not have a juvenile history, and if convicted would be involved in basically his first criminal act is really heavy handed," Skaggs told the newspaper.

"The death penalty notice itself is insufficient because it lists no aggravators," Skaggs said. "Any death penalty notice has to list aggravators, or it's assumed there are no aggravators, and if there are no aggravators, then it's not a death penalty case."

"I think it's heavy handed to say the least and somewhat politically motivated," he added.

Suspect's mom dead

Also this week, Henderson's mother was found dead along a page 28 ▶

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Ashes to ashes:

Law makes scattering cremains easier

by M.R. Richards

Assemblyman Tom Torlakson's Cremations Consumer Law went into effect January 1, removing the stigma of possible criminality from survivors who scatter the ashes of their partners and family members at sea.

On New Year's Day the Anti-och Democrat participated in the first sea-scattering service under the new law, joining families who were victimized by late pilot Al Vieira. Authorities discovered in June 1997 that Vieira had collected fees to scatter the remains of more than 5,000 people, but had haphazardly stuffed the ashes into a storage locker in a Contra Costa airplane hangar.

After researching then-current state law, Torlakson introduced AB 1705 in January 1998. The bill made reforms and changes that would allow survivors to scatter cremains anywhere in California on private land with permission of the landowner or governing agency in the case of state parks. Existing law required ashes scattered at sea to be at least three miles from shore, which often subjected families to rough seas and hazardous waters; Torlakson's bill changed the limit to 500 yards from shore, making it simpler for survivors to scatter ashes themselves.

In addition, the legislation requires funeral directors to make full and accurate disclosures to consumers and standardizes the

requirements for funeral homes and directors. The funeral industry lobbied heavily against the bill.

In August Torlakson met with Debbie Hobson, wife of 27-year-old Army Sergeant Kenneth Hobson who was one of the 12 Americans killed in the 1998 U.S. Embassy bombing in Nairobi, Kenya. By law, Debbie Hobson was prevented from scattering her husband's ashes over the land in Big Sur where the two had met and fallen in love. Instead, the Neptune Society helped her to scatter his ashes three miles out in Monterey Bay. Debbie Hobson sup-

ported the Torlakson bill and presented a letter to Governor Pete Wilson, petitioning him to sign the bill.

Wilson signed the bill into law in September.

According to the Cremation Association of North America, California has a cremation rate of 41 percent, twice the national average. It is also the only state in the nation that regulates the scattering of ashes. "This new consumer rights law brings California in line with the other 49 states," Torlakson said, "it make it easier and less expensive for Californians to put their loved ones

to rest in a dignified and loving manner – it's time we reformed California law to provide consumers the freedom of choice they deserve."

One staff member said, "While this isn't a gay bill per se, it's a bill which affects the gay and lesbian community considering the number of losses we've all experienced over the last years. Now at least people don't have to risk breaking the law in order to have the kind of service or memorial they and their loved ones planned. We've had to go through enough without having to worry about criminal charges too." ▼



Assemblyman Tom Torlakson

Davis in Sancto

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they say the word 'family' and think it means 2.4 kids only with a white man and woman. I think we need to see a bigger picture. There were all kinds of families, single parent, all kinds of ethnic groups – it was important to see that family values can be progressive."

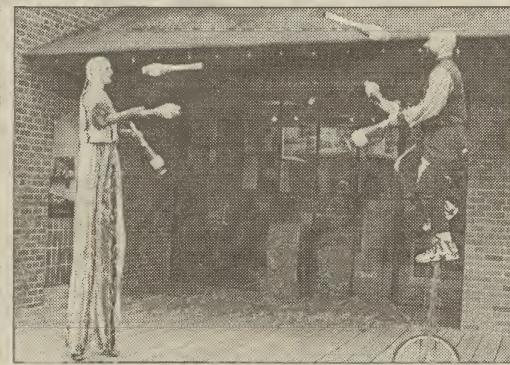
Deane and her 10-year-old son Jesse had such a good time they stayed an extra day, after they landed tickets to the governor's gala event celebration Sunday night at Sacramento's Arco Arena. Deane is concerned about how gay and lesbian families will be affected by the anti-gay California Defense of Marriage Act, qualified by state Senator Pete Knight, (R-Palmdale), for the March 2000 statewide ballot. "The Knight ini-

tiative is a vehicle for homophobia," she pointed out. "It doesn't defend anything about heterosexual families, and increases hostility toward lesbian and gay families." She said she is calling upon Davis to focus on positive changes for all of California's families.

Kid stuff

Despite the serious concerns, the Family Unity Day was clearly an afternoon for the kids. There were stilt-walkers and jugglers, acrobats, balloon sculptors and face-painters, a carousel for a whirl and a small train to ride. There were games to play, a museum tour to take, marching bands, popcorn, and all the free hot dogs and sodas a kid could hold.

Although it was estimated that 3,000 tickets were sold to various sponsors, only about 2,000 people attended the three-hour event.



Jugglers outside the Railroad Museum in Sacramento during Gray Davis' Family Unity Day bash.

That was quite enough for Sacramentoans Midge Marino and Pat Drouet, "Nonnas" – grandmothers who were escorting 2-year-old Isabella Rua. They said they were having a great time, too. "At least the Democrats are not homophobic – we got tickets through the labor union and decided to come. We've seen the crowd, all of the rides and the toys and the prizes, then we saw the governor and his wife, and now we're quite worn out!"

Tom Burns and Brent Miller of Sacramento attended with their son Adam, 4, who always had the best seat in the house – on the shoulders of his over-6-feet-tall dad. Ethan, 3, and Victor, 1, Hunter-Bernstein, sons of Gabe and Michael Hunter-Bernstein of San Francisco, got to ride and snooze in a double stroller – and clearly it was a toss-up as to who was having the best time – the

kids or the parents.

Former San Francisco Supervisor and Clinton appointee Roberta Achtenberg and her partner Judge Mary Morgan were also in attendance – but governor or no governor, their son took a pass. He stayed home to watch the 49ers beat the Green Bay Packers in Reggie White's final game.

To sum up, while Spiegel expressed some disappointment that there were no events which clearly recognized the gay and lesbian community as there had been for the Clinton presidential inauguration. He and Emery worry that they will not be able to really provide a secure environment for their daughter without the civil rights which marriage will bring.

"Real progress will be measured by where we are a year from now," Spiegel said. "Not by what happens today." ▼



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For more information about these studies please call Mark Bowers at 415-353-6215. HIVCare is a non-profit, community-based clinical trial program of Saint Francis Memorial Hospital.

Petaluma leads county in domestic partners

by Lois Pearlman

Petaluma has become the first city in Sonoma County to offer domestic partners benefits to its employees, and a registry for unmarried couples who live or work within its borders.

After a handful of speakers from the religious right issued the usual admonitions against gay relationships, City Council members voted unanimously Monday, January 4 to provide the same benefits to legitimate domestic partners and their children as they do for married spouses. They also agreed to set up a registry for couples who qualify as domestic partners.

ners, whether gay or straight.

"To me it's a no-brainer," explained City Councilmember Jane Hamilton.

"Whether you agree or disagree with domestic partners, we should treat each other with respect," agreed Councilwoman Pamela Torliatt.

Once the benefits resolution is drafted and signed by councilmembers, it will provide dental, vision, bereavement leave, sick leave, and other benefits except basic health insurance, for city employees and council members.

Currently, Petaluma buys health insurance under the state's CalPERS plan (California Public Employees Retirement System.), which does

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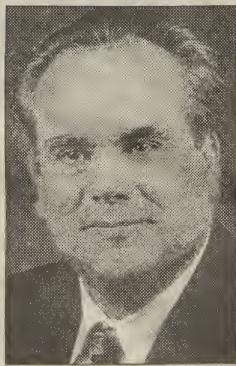
A new era for medicinal marijuana?

by Liz Highleyman

For people who use medicinal marijuana and their advocates, the election of Bill Lockyer as attorney general is likely to be one of the most welcome changes in state government. Lockyer, a former East Bay state senator, was sworn in as the state's top law enforcement official Monday, January 4.

Former Attorney General Dan Lungren, who gave up his seat to pursue a losing bid for governor, was one of the state's leading foes of medical cannabis use, and made the closure of local medical marijuana clubs a personal crusade. Lungren was particularly aggressive in closing the Cannabis Buyers Club (later known by several other names) operated by Dennis Peron, who ran against Lungren in the Republican gubernatorial primary.

Last week Lockyer released a list of his top 12 law enforcement pri-



Bill Lockyer

orities. His 10th priority is to devise a way to implement Proposition 215, the medical marijuana initiative passed by voters in November 1996. While Lungren opposed the initiative, Lockyer supported it, and as attorney general will seek to find

ways to make it work. He has appointed a task force to study ways to implement the proposition. Lockyer has said he believes that Lungren was "overly zealous" in opposing the initiative after its adoption by voters.

Peron perceives a "vast difference" between Lockyer's political agenda, which Peron characterized as "making people's lives better," and Lungren's agenda, which focused "on one thing and one thing only - crime." Peron said he foresees Lockyer "ushering in a new era of more compassionate justice."

Lockyer has expressed his desire to cooperate with local communities in finding a way to provide medical cannabis to appropriate patients. Several Bay Area cities, including San Francisco and Oakland, have expressed an interest in making medical marijuana available through a controlled system for persons with AIDS-related wasting, cancer, glaucoma, and certain other conditions.

The presence of a supportive attorney general does not let persons who use or supply medical marijuana off the hook, however. The federal government classifies cannabis as a Schedule I substance with no recognized medical use, and federal law supersedes state and local laws. The federal government was instrumental in closing San Francisco's Cannabis Healing Center (formerly the Cannabis Buyers Club) this past May and Oakland's Cannabis Buyer's Cooperative in October. A federal lawsuit brought against

these and four other Bay Area clubs in January 1998 is still underway.

California and Arizona were the first of a wave of state initiatives to legalize medicinal cannabis. In this past November's election, four other states - Alaska, Oregon, Nevada, and Washington - passed propositions approving such use. Washington, D.C. also had a medical marijuana initiative on its ballot, but a congressional measure has prevented those votes from being officially tallied. ▼

Screw in car, lose license: it's the law now

United Press International

A new California law that took effect New Year's Day allows a court to suspend for up to six months the driver's license of anyone convicted of using a vehicle to solicit prostitution or to commit a lewd act within 1,000 feet of a private residence. Another statute makes it a

crime to direct, supervise, or recruit someone to commit prostitution, or to collect or receive part of a prostitute's earnings.

Also on January 1, the law covering adult or sexually oriented businesses was expanded to encompass establishments that provide nude dancing but don't serve alcohol. It closes a loophole that has allowed those businesses to operate as theaters and concert

halls to circumvent local zoning laws.

Former Governor Pete Wilson says police complain that juice bars attract drug users, encourage fights, and lead to prostitution.

Another new law will require the state Department of Justice to update and distribute its CD-ROM file of registered sex offenders on a monthly basis. ▼

Quintero

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ships and some financial aid perhaps - that was something that became part of my value system and led to my advocacy orientation. Also, just being from a farm-worker family and having a sister who was a UFW [United Farm Workers] union organizer, all of that came into play. And then, of

course, starting out first as a minority, if you will, as a Latino, and then experiencing minority status as a gay man, also gives me, I think, a perspective and point of view that are not normally found in most newsrooms." ▼

To contact the News Watch Project, call (415) 398-8224 or e-mail them at newspros@sirius.com.

Stewart

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However, she is aware of the work that remains. "This is a crucial period in the gay civil rights movement," Stewart said in a public statement. "On the one hand, we have made great strides, for example, hundreds of law firms and corporations now provide domestic partner benefits to their employees.

"On the other hand, we are seeing an intense backlash in which the religious right has put us front and center as targets to attack, claiming that being gay is a 'lifestyle' choice and that choosing that 'lifestyle' is a sin."

Plans for 1999

Stewart's goals for her term are to continue to press BASF to focus on diversity issues, such as increasing the numbers of ethnic minority attorneys and attorneys with disabilities in law firms. She cites recent anti-affirmative action ballot initiatives as making achieving these goals more difficult.

Stewart has also been working with the heads of the other six major metropolitan bar associations in California, who have banded together in the wake of the

shutdown of the State Bar last year. Former Governor Pete Wilson had refused to allocate adequate funding for the State Bar, partly because of their support for progressive causes such as same sex marriage and transgender civil rights.

"We're working to put Humpty Dumpty back together again," Stewart said. BASF's legal brief was instrumental in advocating for the successful appeal to the California Supreme Court to reinstate an attorney discipline system, which was shut down along with the State Bar.

On the personal side

In the midst of all of this activity, Stewart still manages to have a personal life. She lives in Novato with her partner Carole Scagnetti, a San Francisco business transactional attorney who advises small and medium sized companies.

Stewart also devotes most of her free time to her two nieces and her three dogs. Two of the dogs are holdovers from her days as a competitive dog-sled racer, a hobby that requires more time and attention than her busy schedule allows, especially given her drive to win. "Maybe I'll go back to dog-sledding when I retire," she laughingly told the B.A.R. ▼

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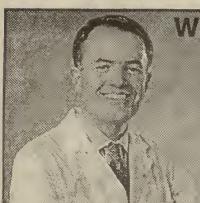
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Dinner Provided by The Study Sponsor

Trojan Horse drug wipes out HIV cells

by Ed Susman, UPI

In laboratory experiments, scientists are using a new form of therapy to make HIV-infected cells commit molecular suicide.

If animal studies continue to show promise, protein therapy in humans could begin within two years, researchers at Washington University School of Medicine, St.

Louis, said January 4.

"We are entering a brave new world of protein therapy that up till now we didn't know existed. This is the first example of protein therapy," said Steven Dowdy, assistant professor of molecular oncology, whose work is funded by the Howard Hughes Medical Institute and the National Institutes of Health.

Dowdy told United Press International that until now pharmaceutical treatment of diseases was limited to small molecules that could penetrate the cell membrane. Small molecules have disadvantages: They don't get into every cell; they can be toxic to normal cells; they require large numbers; and they are susceptible to development of resistance.

In 1988, Dowdy said scientists figured out how to unfold and refold larger proteins to allow these molecules to penetrate cells. But once it was shown to be possible, the work lay fallow, Dowdy said until he came up with the idea of using large proteins to attack HIV.

Use, don't kill, protease

HIV uses a scissors-like protein called a protease to cut out enzymes it needs for reproduction. Protease inhibitor drugs sit in the hinge of the scissors, preventing the proteases from doing their job. But mutations in the protease can make the drugs ineffective. The drugs also inhibit a patient's own proteases, so they often are toxic.

Riding his bike to work one

day, Dowdy thought, "Why not use the viral protease to kill the cell instead of using a drug to inactivate the protease?" Reporting in the January issue of the New York-based journal *Nature Medicine*, Dowdy and colleagues described how they designed a protein that would activate the system of programmed cell death known as apoptosis. Once inside an HIV-infected cell, the HIV protease cuts the protein triggering caspase-3. Caspase-3 activation begins a robust, unstoppable chain reaction of thousands of caspase molecules in the cell, leading to cell death.

Dowdy said that in the test tube the reaction is so quick that all HIV-infected cells die within 10 minutes. "With protein therapy we can transduce - get inside - 100 percent of the HIV cells," he said. Because the protein molecule is programmed only to react to HIV-protease, uninfected cells are not affected. And because the reaction occurs so quickly and so far down the line of the cascade, Dowdy said he doesn't think the molecule will be able to develop a mutation to defend against the protein therapy.

Even if it does somehow come up with a natural defense, Dowdy said the protein can be redesigned to attack that mutation as well.

He cautioned, however, protein therapy is not a cure for AIDS. "We won't even begin human tests for at least a year," he cautioned. Animal studies are already under way. ▼

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Petaluma

◀ page 22

not offer domestic partners coverage. However, Governor Gray Davis is expected to push for adding domestic partners to CalPERS, according to Petaluma Personnel Director Michael Acorne. City Councilmembers agreed that once this is accomplished they will include this benefit in their domestic partners package.

The registry resolution is expected to take a few months to be implemented, according to Acorne.

Santa Rosa-based attorney Caren Callahan, and Petaluma insurance agent Jim Spahr, a Parents

and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG) member who spearheaded the domestic partners plan in Petaluma, said Sonoma County supervisors are also considering a domestic partners policy. Meanwhile, a group of county employees, the Sonoma County Domestic Partners Committee, is working with their unions to include domestic partners benefits in union contracts.

The City of Petaluma joins Old Adobe School District in Petaluma, the Petaluma Health Care District, and the Sweetwater Springs Water District on the Russian River, as well as many private companies, in providing domestic partners benefits to their employees. ▼

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Steven Lee Kelso
December 9, 1951 —
January 13, 1998



Steven started his life in Ventura, California, where he attended Catholic schools and had a happy childhood and was very active in his church. Steven's parents moved the family to Eugene, Oregon, when he was fourteen. Steven loved the beautiful wilderness around him. Later he attended the University of Oregon, where he studied classical piano. In 1978 Steven moved to San Francisco to continue his retail career as a buyer for the Emporium. Two years later, Steven started his own remodeling business working on Victorian buildings he loved so much. We met in 1984 when my life became a happy place. Steven leaves his parents, Betty and Earl Kelso, his sisters, Sandra and Candice, his aunt Reba and uncle Pete, his cousin Hue, and many other family members. He also leaves his friends Charles, Dudley, Jim, Bob and Shannon, my family, and many other friends. I would like to thank the entire staff at Ward 5-A, and Mission Dolores. We had a beautiful memorial for Steven the week of his departure.

Steven, you will always be in my heart. I'll have nothing but loving memories of the time we spent together. I know we will be together again.

Love, Robert.

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Steven, you will always be in my heart. I'll have nothing but loving memories of the time we spent together. I know we will be together again.

Love, Robert.

Greg Pocock

June 10, 1959 — November 21, 1998

Gregory A. Pocock passed away peacefully on Saturday, November 21, at California Pacific Medical Center in San Francisco. A long term resident since moving from his native Seattle in 1980, Greg will be remembered for his quick sense of humor and his love for his friends. Always generous with his time and money, Greg worked quietly and behind the scenes and was an active member in the gay community, giving

to and helping many AIDS related organizations, in particular the AEF. Greg was always ready, cheerful and willing to assist any charity that needed his services. He is survived by his father, Stanley R. Pocock and wife, Suzanne, both of Seattle; brother, Christopher, of Golden Dale, Washington; sister, Susan Saul and her husband and three children in Mukilteo, Washington. A memorial service will be held in his honor. All who knew and loved him will miss him deeply. All remembrances in his honor should go to the AEF, 1540 Market St., San Francisco, CA 94102.

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An unusual partnership to find a cure

by Matthew Sharp, ACT UP/
Golden Gate Writers Pool

AIDS activists have made possible the successes against the epidemic we are beginning to experience, and not only by working through non-violent direct action to focus attention on the issue of drug development. Some people do not realize the impact they have had behind the scenes: for example, at last year's World AIDS Conference in Geneva, Switzerland, several meetings were set for discussion of prospective development of new drugs. One such meeting brought together scientists, public relations staff, and AIDS advocates to discuss the future of Trimeris's fusion inhibitor, T-20.

It is no longer uncommon in the AIDS epidemic for two sides that have been at odds many times — activists and drug manufacturers — to come together, not contentiously, but peacefully and productively. AIDS patients and pharmaceutical companies may have different motives for drug approval, but they also have much in common, and have become unusual partners in the painstaking process of bringing drugs to market.

Each pharmaceutical company works differently with the AIDS community, and there is no set script for activists working with them.

perseverance, the FDA has approved 15 new anti-viral drugs for HIV treatment in a relatively short amount of time, death rates are down, and companies are producing a profit.

Moving a drug through its elaborate research timetable can be a complicated journey with many roadblocks. New companies such as Trimeris rely upon PWAs who have been through the deliberations many times, who understand the realities of the process, and who are frankly the best unpaid consultants the corporate world can find. More established companies like Glaxo-Wellcome now know they cannot ethically move their research along without input from the AIDS community. They understand the relevance of activists' knowledge and understand that in reality, the negotiations help everyone concerned.

It wasn't always that way. At first, the only way to negotiate with pharmaceutical companies was to threaten them with direct action. PWAs held successful civil disobedience actions to get the industry's attention. Disruptions at scientific conferences, phone and

regarding pricing and long-term side effects. Pricing debates have been on the forefront of confrontations with the industry ever since the community forced Burroughs-Wellcome to lower the price of AZT, the first approved AIDS drug. Now that competition is fierce in the industry, pricing has become a major ethical concern among activists who fear drugs are priced at "all the market will bear." They worry that pricing will force bankruptcy in the federal and state assistance programs. Third world countries may never have access to the drugs because they are so expensive. The pharmaceutical companies may end up pricing themselves completely out of the market and no one will be able to afford the drugs.

Drug companies say they need to recoup research and development costs as many drugs fail and never reach the market. The companies say they need to price accordingly so they will be able to develop other AIDS drugs. But activists will never know what they are spending on development, because companies are usually not forthcoming with financial information.

Drug pricing is by far the most contentious issue confronting the epidemic, and medicine today. If

Each pharmaceutical company works differently with the AIDS community, and there is no set script for activists working with them.

fax zaps of companies, and arrest actions in the streets were common in those days. Stock markets and businesses were closed while CEOs and board members agreed to activists' demands.

Because of those actions, people with AIDS are now at the table, fully involved in the development process. Discussions are more civilized, are usually productive, and hopefully can serve everyone's best interests. But not always. There are still communication problems, hold-outs, and secrets kept by the industry that block positive interaction and further approval of the drugs. Sometimes the discussions inside will break down and force other activists to protest outside — simultaneously.

Contentious pricing

While most interactions with the pharmaceutical companies are about access and speedy development, there is more heated debate

communications would continue to be open and honest with the AIDS community as in the past, and the industry prices drugs fairly, perhaps this issue will be worked out like many of the others.

The progress of T-20 is an example of how discussions can be mutually beneficial. After meeting with activists in Switzerland, Trimeris changed design issues related to drug studies, and moved T-20 into Phase II clinical trials. Because the company brought activists to the table from the beginning, and responsibly listened to them, progress has been made in bringing a promising new drug to people who need it.

If all goes well Trimeris will see the approval of T-20. Now everyone is watching to see if the drug warrants approval, and if the company will price it responsibly. Activists will then move forward with the next issue at the table, the next AIDS drug, the next pharmaceutical company. ▼

Cagey and Lacey

by Jim 'Woodsy'
Provenzano

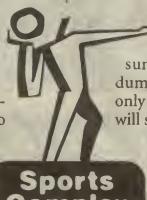
Honestly, I was only shopping for boot laces. My recently-purchased Timbers did not, unfortunately, come with strong enough supplies for a good day's hike. After only a few months of wear, the laces that came with the boots needed replacements. Foolishly, I thought I would shop without incident. Little did I know that I would encounter yet another flagrant example of subverted sexual imagery! Egads!

It seems my X-ray vision, despite my efforts to take a break, can't ignore a less-than-subtle subliminal graphic, no matter how small. I've canceled my subscription to *Sports Illustrated*, since it's just too damn pornographic (actually, I never paid for *SI*, I just filled in the card mailed to somebody who hasn't lived at my address since the late 1970s. He gets a lot of mail).

But who (besides a certain fabulous presidential candidate) would think footwear could be X-rated?

Note the hunky hiker on the label of a pair of boot laces recently purchased at a local sporting goods store. Just another cartoon creature, you say? Look closer.

As tiny as this package of Hiker brand laces is (a mere two inches wide), it seems the model for said



laces has been gifted with the primitival proportions of a donkey.

Some of you are saying to the bar patron next to you, "It's just a fold of fabric, you pervert!" Why yes, just a mere ripple in the cartoon's creatively constructed constrictor. Sure, they weren't thinking of sex, were they, when a python was placed in his pants?

Numerous examples of undy ads, Sears catalogs, and menswear graphics have proven, the cloistered halls of product merchandising seem to inspire a warped sense of sexuality. We consumers are considered so dumb or desensitized that only the promise of priapism will spur a purchase.

Cubicley-quartered designers, craving a sensual outdoors adventure beyond their occasional private break in the staff lounge, have to let their imaginations run free, and the constricted confines of their organs inspire drawings of men equipped with gargantuan gonads!

Whatever peak this sort of mountain man spends his days piking I cannot say (although I've certainly spent a few afternoons searching). I do know that a day in the great outdoors can be quite a reviving experience, and a love of nature is good for your health and, consequently, your sexuality.

But wherever in Toon Town this outdoorsman - the Sierra Club equivalent of the Billy Doll - resides, the trail, to be sure, must

be worn and welcoming.

And while cartoons of any orientation - or proportion - are probably welcome on hikes with the San Francisco Hiking Club, (415) 252-1315, it's probably good advice to keep your proportions to yourself, until you're off the beaten path, so to speak.

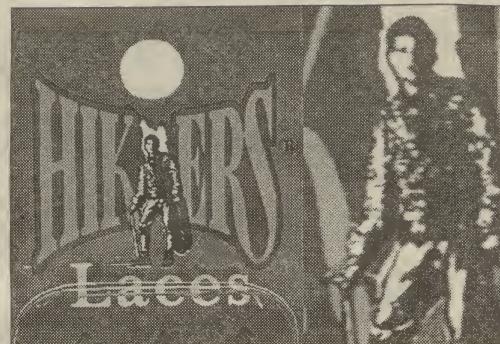
For outdoor adventures of a more G-rated nature, consider taking a trip with the Northern California Rainbow Divers. The lesbian and gay San Franciscans who participate in the various exotic dives around the world often report on their adventures in the NCRD Newsletter, which can be yours with membership.

Upcoming dives include treks to Kona, Hawaii, Roatan (off the Honduras mainland), the Channel Islands, and Vancouver. Nature lovers will adore the thrill of spotting whales aboard their Santa Cruz trips, and coral reef dives to the Channel Islands reveal an array of colorful nudibrachs (no comment).

Rainbow Divers had a recent strange thrill of witnessing the large fire at the Santa Barbara Wharf. Future trips are expected to be less flammable.

The next meeting of the NCRD is Tuesday, January 12 at 7:30 p.m., at St. Francis Lutheran Church, 152 Church Street (across the street from the Safeway). For more information on NCRD, visit their website at www.rainbowdivers.org, or call (415) 522-2348.

If snow is more your cup of tea, check out some of the upcoming snowboarding events or



Leather and laces

ganized by Ken Brunt's OUTside Sports. Future trips include deluxe accommodations at classy resorts at Lake Tahoe and Mammoth Mountain (where you

might find that boot lace stud!). For more information on OUTside sports, call Ken at (888) 813-TRIP or visit his website at www.getoutsidesports.com. ▼

Pride parade

◀ page 1

the changes made to this year's fee schedule. It extends to a float-building workshop, too. Witherington said the pride committee has set aside cash in the budget to rent a warehouse and pier space large enough for eight floats to be constructed during April, May, and June. This space will be offered free to those organizations who need time and space to put together an impressive float.

Space is limited and groups that are interested should apply early, said Witherington, who added there are no set criteria for selection. Organizations need to be working on parade entries that reflect the 1999 theme of "Proud Heritage, Powerful Future."

It's expected that with these changes, the Pride Parade will be even more fabulous than last year's record-breaking event, Witherington said.

The pride committee is committed to doing whatever we can to encourage those marching in the parade in the expression of their

pride and their demands for our freedom, marriage, and civil rights protection under the Constitution," said Calvin Gipson, pride president. "Eliminating and reducing the contingent fees for our community lightens the burden as we march, celebrate, and protest."

Also the parade grand marshal is back for 1999's parade - last year in a break with tradition, the committee did away with the grand marshals. Although grand marshal selection won't take place until later, the pride committee is appealing for nominations from both organizations and individuals. Nominations must be made in writing, via e-mail, fax, or letter, and accompanied by a brief explanation. Nominations should also reflect the pride theme. Everyone's suggestions are welcome, officials said. ▼

To submit a nomination for grand marshal or for information on parade fees or floats, call the pride office at (415) 864-3733, fax: (415) 864-5889, or e-mail: sfp pride@aol.com.

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It's dog poop vs. kids at Eureka Valley

by Cynthia Laird

A controversial fence project at the Eureka Valley playground has unleashed some dog owners' anger, but the city's Recreation and Parks Department officials say the planned 8-foot high chain link fence around the outfield of Rikki Streicher Field will solve the problem of park users stepping in dog poop while on the field.

Fliers went up in the neighborhood last month explaining the project. "The fence is designed to provide a safe and secure playing environment for the youth and children who use the field ... and for protection of other users from balls flying into the tennis court and other areas of the playground ...," the flyer stated.

Dog owner Robert Roederer doesn't believe it. Roederer, who lives across the street from Collingwood Park, said "they're doing that to keep dogs out. I'm irked about it."

Tony Leung, with the parks department, and Nancy Dito, a director who's worked at the park for about 17 years, said it is needed. And, while there are signs that dogs are allowed in the park from 6 to 8 a.m. and 6 to 8 p.m., both explained that the park is not an "official" dog park. Dogs being allowed in the park was a trial project that acting Recreation and Parks Director Joel Robinson instituted over a year ago.



Robert Roederer with his dog Uther point out the planned location of an eight-foot-tall fence at Rikki Streicher Field.

RICK GERHARTER

"I think people are walking dogs there now, but it's actually not a dog walking park," Leung said.

"Unfortunately, some were over running their dogs while baseball was being played," Dito told the *Bay Area Reporter*. She added that just about all the dog owners who use the park clean up after their pets, but a few do not.

"A proposal was made and approved to put up a fence," she said. "There will be about 5 feet of grass on the outside of the fence and dogs will be allowed there." With 70 to 80 dog owners, 350 families, and numerous sports teams that use the area, the city felt this was the best solution. "We wanted to try to make everybody happy. This could be a win-win situation," Dito said.

Roederer doesn't see it that way. One of his main concerns is that car shows and other large

events wouldn't be able to take place if a fence was installed. Leung and Dito disputed that, saying such events could take place because the fence would contain large gates. Dito pointed out that car shows aren't held on the grass lawn, and that the gates must be large enough to accommodate lawn equipment.

The fence shouldn't change the activity [at the park], Leung agreed. He acknowledged that some dog owners are unhappy with the fence plan, which is one of the reasons the department that officials will hold a public meeting, probably next month.

"We will have a discussion," he told the *B.A.R.*, and added, "I did get a call today from a mother whose kids were trampling on dog poop, so there's both sides." ▼

For information on the meeting, call Tony Leung at (415) 831-2769.

Gay and Lesbian Sierrans create gardens for all San Franciscans Saturday

by Mark Norby

Nearly everyone in San Francisco who doesn't have a garden of their own yearns for one. The Gay and Lesbian Sierrans (GLS) are making that goal a little more possible, through the Presidio Habitat Restoration Project. The project, now in its sixth year, seeks volunteers for planting and gardening this Saturday morning, January 9 as they work to return Crissy Field to its original natural splendor.

Together with the National Parks Board and the Federal Government's AmeriCor - an achievement of the Clinton administration designed to respect and restore America's natural habitats - GLS will cultivate Crissy Field and root once-native plants.

"The Presidio is like San Francisco's front yard," said Ginny Bowen, GLS volunteer director. "At the old Crissy Field we are restoring the lands to their natural habitat and planting native flora such as dune grass and beach strawberries. It's a beautiful thing to see a return to nature, and to be instrumental in remaking this area as it was before development."

GLS is working to restore marshlands, creek beds, and dune areas throughout the former military base, and has at their disposal the Presidio Nursery, a nucleus of native botanicals. Saturday will be the third planting activity at Crissy Field.

"The turnout of volunteers hasn't been enough to bring our efforts to full fruition," GLS board director Carol Peterson told the *Bay Area Reporter*. "We need many more, and it's such a wonderful cooperation of energies. I think anyone who turns up Saturday - gay, lesbian, straight, whatever - will find it to be a day well spent."

GLS of San Francisco is the first active queer chapter of the Sierra Club Foundation. As an all-inclusive organization, "welcoming gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, and straight individuals interested in the restoration and preservation of the natural environment," according to Bowen, GLS San Francisco has paved the way for chapters in Sacramento, Los Angeles, New York, and other cities.

"We also sponsor outings such as day hikes and Bay Area explorations," she said. "GLS has an activity planned every weekend and the membership is free. We also distribute a bi-monthly newsletter with information on upcoming outings."

As for this weekend's activities, Bowen said, "I look at it as an opportunity to create a garden of your own. A garden that many thousands of people will be able to enjoy for years to come." ▼

To find out more on becoming a GLS member, or to volunteer for the Saturday plantings, call Ginny Bowen at (415) 626-5470.



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National briefs: Sex site meant excitement in Virginia

United Press International

The sex offender website set up by Virginia State Police has proved far more popular than expected. It was thought it would get 5,000 "hits" on its first day, December 30, but got over 45,000 during the first 12 hours.

The website includes the names, pictures, and addresses of more than 400 convicted sex offenders in Northern Virginia.

Error claimed on Michigan sex site

A Southwest Michigan man is fighting to get his name off a police list of suspected sexual offenders there. Unlike the Virginia list, it's only available to police and court personnel, but in any case Carl Motter of Plainwell claims he was wrongfully put there.

Motter is accused of being

naked at an I-94 rest stop over a year ago in Kalamazoo County. Motter says police have the wrong man, since he was working at the Plainwell paper plant at the time of alleged incident. An attorney and private investigator have proven his car was in the plant parking lot at that time.

Motter's wife told reporters she's puzzled as to why her husband was even put on the list, since he doesn't even match the suspect's description.

Burgled blues in Indiana

Indiana police are searching for the burglars who took cases of Viagra tablets valued at nearly \$20,000. The pills were discovered missing the last week in December, after having been stored for six days at a public storage facility in Merrillville, Indiana, about 125 miles from Michigan's bawdy rest area on Interstate 94. ▼

Kentucky schools: rife with harassment

United Press International

Two Kentucky school boards are embroiled in legal actions prompted by students who claim to have suffered harassment at the hands of fellow students. In Louisville, a federal judge has refused to set aside an award of \$220,000 to a teen-age girl who sued the Spencer County School Board for sexual harassment she suffered at the hands of other students. Alma McGowen's lawyers successfully argued that the board became liable when officials were informed of the harassment and didn't do anything about it. U.S. District Judge Thomas Russell denied the board's motion to set aside the jury verdict Tuesday, December 29.

In Paducah, in a much more notorious case, the McCracken County Board of Education and Heath High School personnel have been named as defendants in a civil lawsuit filed in connection with teen killer Michael Carneal's deadly shooting spree at the

school. Carneal has told psychologists that he went on the shooting rampage in December 1997 after he sustained anti-gay harassment from other students, which escalated after the school newspaper printed an item intimating he had a crush on another male student.

Families of Carneal's victims say teachers and administrators share liability because they knew the boy was troubled and didn't do anything about it.

A January 15 hearing is set for a motion for dismissal, filed by the school board. In the motion, the school board's lawyer says victims' families missed the statute of limitations when they waited until one year and one day after the killings to file their lawsuit. He also says the board has sovereign immunity. School officials have also denied knowing about the item in the school newspaper.

McGowen is now a student at Jefferson Community College, and says she plans to write and publicly speak about her ordeal. Carneal is in prison, awaiting trial. ▼

Shepard murder

◀ page 21

remote road near Laramie. Authorities said the suspicious death of Cindy Dixon, 40, has nothing to do with Shepard's murder.

Dixon, found dead of hypothermia along a road eight miles north of Laramie early Sunday, is the mother of Henderson, one of two men accused of killing Shepard. Investigators believe Shepard was attacked because he was gay.

Deputies say Dixon was seen staggering out of a Laramie bar hours before her body was discovered. Albany County Sheriff's Sergeant Rob Graham says there was no evidence she was beaten.

Bitter cold temperatures combined with a brisk wind the night Dixon was found added up to a chill factor of 30 below zero, authorities said. The location of her body was not near where Shepard was beaten to death.

Deputies say the woman's estranged husband, Charles Dixon Jr., was in court Tuesday after being arrested for violating conditions of bond set December 30 in connection with an earlier assault on Dixon.

Investigators did not discuss whether Charles Dixon was suspected of having a role in his wife's death. Records show he assaulted the Dixon woman twice in 1997.

Henderson is scheduled to go on trial March 22. McKinney's trial is to begin August 9. ▼

The end



Jane Pham/Chronicle

Party-goers collapse after a long night of dancing at "Higher Resolution," an all-night party in the Bayview District that drew hundreds of New Year's revelers and raised \$7,000 to help restore the Fallen Building, part of the planned Gay Community Center. The event was sponsored by the CCC, a local rave collective, as well as Blue Room America (a rave-music record label) and Pacific Sound.

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#402, San Francisco CA 94102. This busi-
ness is conducted by an individual signed
Thomas Y. Chen. The registrant(s) com-
menced to transact business under the above
listed fictitious business name or names on,
12/15/98. The statement was filed with the
County Clerk of the City and County of San
Francisco, CA on 12/15/98.
DEC 23, 31, JAN 7, 14 1998

STATEMENT FILE NO.227491
The following person(s) are doing business
as Threshold 77 Herman St. #48, San
Francisco CA 94102. This business is con-
ducted by an individual signed John P.
Walker. The registrant(s) commenced to
transact business under the above listed fictitious
business name or names on, N/A. The statement
was filed with the County Clerk of the City and
County of San Francisco, CA on 12/15/98.
DEC 23, 31, JAN 7, 14 1998

STATEMENT FILE NO.227607
The following person(s) are doing business
as Charlie Graham Travel Arrangements
584 Castro St. #321 San Francisco CA
94114. This business is conducted by an in-
dividual signed Charlie G. Graham. The
registrant(s) commenced to transact busi-
ness under the above listed fictitious business
name or names on, N/A. The statement
was filed with the County Clerk of the City and
County of San Francisco, CA on 12/15/98.
DEC 23, 31, JAN 7, 14 1998

STATEMENT FILE NO.227536
The following person(s) are doing business
as (1)The Isis Collection (2) Isis Apparel
1000 Brannan St., Rm 303, San Francisco
CA 94103. This business is conducted by an
general partnership, Signed Constance Rive-
male. The registrant(s) commenced to trans-
act business under the above listed fictitious
business name or names on, 12/15/98. The
statement was filed with the County Clerk of
the City and County of San Francisco, CA
on 12/16/98.
DEC 23, 31, JAN 7, 14 1998

STATEMENT FILE NO.227313
The following person(s) are doing business
as Body Tonic LLC 1300 Sutter St. San
Francisco, CA 94109. This business is con-
ducted by a limited liability company signed
Maureen Kennedy. The registrant(s) com-
menced to transact business under the above
listed fictitious business name or names on,
N/A. The statement was filed with the County
Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco
on 12/04/98.
DEC 30, JAN 7, 14, 21, 1998

STATEMENT FILE NO.227505
The following person(s) are doing business
as Blackstone Productions 1201 Bowdoin
St., San Francisco CA 94134. This business
is conducted by an individual signed Curry
J. Brooks Jr. The registrant(s) commenced to
transact business under the above listed
fictitious business name or names on,
12/15/98. The statement was filed with the
County Clerk of the City and County of San
Francisco, CA on 12/15/98.
DEC 23, 31, JAN 7, 14 1998

STATEMENT FILE NO.227504

The following person(s) are doing business
as i2i Communications 86 Waller St. San
Francisco, CA 94102. This business is con-
ducted by an individual signed Daniel R.
Theobald. The registrant(s) commenced to
transact business under the above listed
fictitious business name or names on,
12/11/98. The statement was filed with the
County Clerk of the City and County of San
Francisco, CA on 12/21/98.
DEC 30, JAN 7, 14, 21, 1998

STATEMENT FILE NO.227503

The following person(s) are doing business
as Tom 101 Productions 880 Franklin St

San Francisco, CA on 12/21/98.
DEC 30, JAN 7, 14, 21, 1998

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LEGAL NOTICES

City and County of San Francisco
Department of Human Services
Request for Proposals #148

The City and County of San Francisco Department of Human Services (SFDHS) announces its intent to seek proposals from organizations interested in contracting to develop and provide Childcare Services to mildly ill children of families eligible for CalWORKS Childcare.

This RFP will have four components, which includes a licensed
mildly ill childcare center in Bayview/Hunters Point, mildly
ill childcare that is part of an existing licensed center or a col-
laboration between an existing childcare center and a licensed
family childcare setting in targeted neighborhoods, in-home
services for mildly ill children, and purchase of slots in existing
licensed mildly ill childcare programs. Respondents may bid
on one or more components. The program will provide up to
a total of \$1,250,000 over the period from March 1, 1999 to June
1, 2000.

An RFP packet may be picked up at SFDHS, 170 Otis, 8th Floor
beginning Tuesday, January 5, 1999. Office hours are from
8am - 5pm.

The Respondents' Conference will be held on Tuesday, Janu-
ary 12, 1999 at 9:30 AM at 170 Otis, 8th Floor, SF, CA. For fur-
ther information, contact Pauson Yun at (415) 557-6523.

Due date for responses is Thursday, January 28, 1999
at 5:00PM.

STATEMENT FILE NO.227412

The following person(s) are doing business
as Eight Street Art & Furniture Gallery
1201 8th St. San Francisco, CA 94107.
This business is conducted by co-partners
Peter Alexander, David Baughan, signed
Peter Alexander. The registrant(s) com-
menced to transact business under the above
listed fictitious business name or names on,
N/A. The statement was filed with the
County Clerk of the City and County of San
Francisco, CA on 12/10/98.

DEC 23, 23, 31, JAN 7, 14 1998

STATEMENT FILE NO.227505

The following person(s) are doing business
as Blackstone Productions 1201 Bowdoin
St., San Francisco CA 94134. This business
is conducted by an individual signed Curry
J. Brooks Jr. The registrant(s) commenced to
transact business under the above listed
fictitious business name or names on,
12/15/98. The statement was filed with the
County Clerk of the City and County of San
Francisco, CA on 12/15/98.

DEC 23, 31, JAN 7, 14 1998

STATEMENT FILE NO.227487

The following person(s) are doing business
as Arthur Robinson Associates 2261 Mar-
ket St #214 San Francisco CA 94114.

Ours Blanc Inc (A Calif Corp). This business
is conducted by a corporation signed Arthur
Robinson president. The registrant(s) com-
menced to transact business under the above

listed fictitious business name or names on,
N/A. The statement was filed with the County
Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco,
CA on 12/15/98.

DEC 23, 31, JAN 7, 14 1998

STATEMENT FILE NO.227504

The following person(s) are doing business
as Tom 101 Productions 880 Franklin St
San Francisco, CA on 12/21/98.

DEC 30, JAN 7, 14, 21, 1998

STATEMENT FILE NO.227503

The following person(s) are doing business
as i2i Communications 86 Waller St. San
Francisco, CA 94102. This business is con-
ducted by an individual signed Daniel R.

Theobald. The registrant(s) commenced to
transact business under the above listed
fictitious business name or names on,
12/11/98. The statement was filed with the
County Clerk of the City and County of San
Francisco, CA on 12/21/98.

DEC 30, JAN 7, 14, 21, 1998

STATEMENT FILE NO.227502

The following person(s) are doing business
as 1201 8th St. San Francisco CA 94102.

This business is conducted by an individual signed

Curry J. Brooks Jr. The registrant(s) com-
menced to transact business under the above listed
fictitious business name or names on,
12/11/98. The statement was filed with the
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DEC 30, JAN 7, 14, 21, 1998

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Gerald Marinelli For Change of Name. The application of Robert Gerald Marinelli for change of name, having been filed in court, and it appearing from said application that Robert Gerald Marinelli has filed an application proposing that his name be changed to Robert K. Dov. Now therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in department X-4 206 on the 28th day of January, 1999, at 9:00 o'clock am., of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted.

DEC 30, JAN 7, 14, 21, 1998

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO: FILE NO: 300271

In the Matter of the Application of Matthew Scott Matson For Change of Name. The application of Matthew Scott Matson for change of name, having been filed in court, and it appearing from said application that Matthew Scott Matson has filed an application proposing that his name be changed to Adriac Matthew Francis. Now therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in department X-4 - 206 on the 2nd day of February, 1999, at 9:00 o'clock am., of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted.

JAN 7, 14, 21, 28 1998

STATEMENT FILE NO. 227769

The following person(s) are doing business as Sexmisphere 268 Bush St. #2732 S.F. CA 94104. This business is conducted by an individual signed Melinda Peterson. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, N/A. The statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 12/29/98.

DEC 30, JAN 7, 14, 21, 1998

STATEMENT FILE NO. 227700

The following person(s) are doing business as Daddy's Adult Boys Club 130 Landers St #J San Francisco, CA 94114. This business is conducted by an individual signed Larry Elwyn. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, N/A. The statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 12/24/98.

DEC 30, JAN 7, 14, 21, 1998

STATEMENT FILE NO. 227759

The following person(s) are doing business as Sexmisphere 268 Bush St. # 2732 S.F., CA 94104. This business is conducted by an individual signed Daemon K. Morrison. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, N/A. The statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 12/29/98.

JAN 7, 14, 21, 28 1998

STATEMENT FILE NO. 227744

The following person(s) are doing business as Montgomery Wilshire 268 Bush St # 3802, S.F., CA 94104. This business is conducted by an individual signed Peter C. McNally. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on, N/A. The statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on 12/28/98.

JAN 7, 14, 21, 28 1998

BAY AREA REPORTER

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gay books set in contemporary India.
page 41

Personal best
11 Hollywood stars with
'The Power of Glamour.'
page 44



Beautiful things
Blackpool boy meets London
bloke in indie film 'Like It Is.'
page 36



ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

BAY AREA REPORTER

Vol. 29 • No. 1 • 7 January 1999



Canada dry

by Gary Morris

John Greyson's *Un@ut*
at the Castro Theatre

In his early short film, *The Making of Monsters* (1991), Canadian director John Greyson rewrote "Mack the Knife" as a queer ditty. In his first feature, *Urinal* (1991), he corralled a group of historical homos — Yukio Mishima and Frida Kahlo among them — into a Toronto apartment for a yakfest on the repression of gays. In *Zero Patience* (1993) he made the dreaded "Patient Zero" — the French-Canadian steward believed to be an early vehicle for the AIDS virus — the centerpiece of a musical, of all things. With the award-winning *Lilies* (1997), Greyson achieved the seemingly impossible: luring audiences to a florid melodrama that combined Brechtian distancing devices with the camp of Ronald Firbank and a fire-and-brimstone gay love story.

Greyson is an anomaly even by the standards of queer cinema. A strong pictorialist, he avoids classical narrative, or more correctly perhaps, skewers it in favor of a more playful, experimental style that recalls the work of Peter Greenaway, though without the latter's unrelenting pessimism. Greyson's films are "about" something — sexual identity, political and social repression, AIDS — without being mere polemics; he dresses up his ideas with visual and verbal game-playing, absurdist imagery, sexy boys, and best of all, humor. His latest film, the feature-length video *Un@ut* (1997), adds circumcision, copyright, Canadian politics and mores, and Pierre Trudeau's possible homosexuality to his list of subjects, and the result is a dizzying, demanding work that will confound some but reward open-minded viewers who can handle a challenge. Greyson literally throws a bone to penis-spotters, who will find much to love in *Un@ut*'s frequent frontal male nudity.

Type-casting

The setting is a "pre-digital gay community" in Toronto in 1979, a time, the film informs us in words on the screen, that marked "the death

page 37 ▶

Tear sheets

by Glen Helfand
Helmut Newton's
Pages from the Glossies

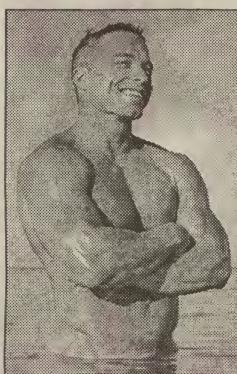
Helmut Newton photos are an irresistible, if guilty pleasure. His are influential era-defining images that are pure, erotic, Eurotrash pop. Plus, they exude a brash political incorrectness that's a lot more subversive and enduringly topical than anything Bill Maher might dish up on that late-night talk show. What could be more timeless than kinky sex, sleek, statuesque nude females, designer clothes, international backdrops, champagne on tap and a sly wit?

Because of his jetsetting playboy image, Newton has never exactly stood up under feminist critique or enjoyed the respect of the art world. But he manages to transcend that situation in *Pages from the Glossies*, (Scalo) his tasty new tome that gives his work the kind of credibility it's been yearning for. First and foremost, Newton is a groundbreaking fashion photographer who has demonstrated time and again that he can position the homeliest designer duds within a narrative charged with sex and decadent high-living.

page 43 ▶



Helmut Newton



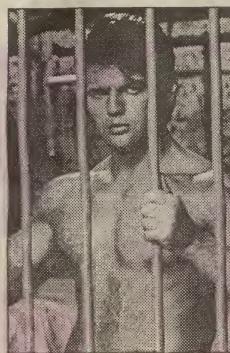
Page two boy.

by Roberto Friedman
and Tú Mescence

Like the god Janus, who looks both backwards and forward, we stand here at the beginning of January feeling a bit ambivalent. On the one hand, we are sick of looking backwards at '98: let's face it, it was a plug-ugly stinker of a year. Still, what is it about the mere flip of a calendar page that's supposed to make us believe '99, sold to us as a blushing cupid baby, will turn out to be any more gracious?

Speaking of turning over calendar pages, we were delighted to put up our newest maleflesh-on-parade calendar with photo-

tographs of all sorts of male pulchritude, none of it babyflesh, by Jeff Palmer. "Focus... on a Future Without AIDS," it says, and its proceeds benefit HIV service organizations. Where else but right here could such visions of resonant loveliness be used as our office calendar? — which is precisely why we put it up, as a freedom-of-speech gesture. Okay, the pics make us horny, too, and horny is better.



Jeff Palmer

Cool Britannia in Gay London

"STUDDED WITH GOOD PERFORMANCES!"

As in *Beautiful Thing*, the boys are pretty. As in *Hollow Reed*, the sex scenes push the envelope...

—Jan Stuart, THE ADVOCATE

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Eat this

San Francisco queens are polishing up their Jeff Stryker-mold dildos in anticipation of the Massive-Membered One's imminent arrival in town to star in the stage vehicle *Jeff Stryker Does Hard Time*, opening February 11 at the lovely Victoria Theatre on charming 16th Street. Stryker's star certainly seems to be in the ascendant — Out There has heard that queer German filmmaker Rosa von Praunheim ("the star-maker of Europe," according to his p.r.) has cast Stryker in the lead role of his new project *I Love You So Much I Could Eat You*, which began shooting last month in Hollywood. The plot was summarized to Out There as "a macho character's whimsical journey through Tinseltown."

Von Praunheim is said to have cast Stryker on the basis of his "convincing performance on stage" in *Hard Time*. This is all very rosy indeed, except for one small mitigating factor: by all accounts, Jeff can't act his way out of a condom pack-

aging. His most recent video, conceived as a showcase for his thespian rather than his fornicating talents, featured lengthy monologues that Jeff decided were just too long (sweet irony, *non?*) to memorize. But we hear he got around the problem by ad-libbing extensively and doing a lot of deep breathing — well, it worked for Richard Burton, didn't it?

I Love You So Much I Could Eat You is aiming for a premiere at Cannes 1999. Like the diplomats we are, Out There withholds judgment till then.



Jeff Stryker

ET, phone home for nightie

We're still smarting over the pusillanimous, pre-emptory moves of the three largest music retailers in the country. Hang onto your seat as we identify the Big Three in American music vending: K-Mart, Wal-Mart, and Target (sounds great in French, is grim in reality). It seems the cover art of the latest Marilyn Manson album, *Mechanical Animals*, which ended up on many critics' Top 10 lists, scared the bejeezus out of them, so all three pantyhose/motor oil/recorded music emporiums simply refused to carry it.

The National Campaign for Freedom of Expression reports all the unsavory details: "The cover depicts the band's eponymous lead singer as an androgynous alien with breasts but no discernible genitalia." Oh, so that's what's going on, aggressive airbrushing. We thought Manson was doing some creative tucking.

"We do not carry any albums with nudity on the cover at Target," said [spokescreature] Denise Workcuff. "This is a family store." Apparently even aliens must have their whoopee parts safely locked away in a chastity belt to satisfy middle American bluenoses.

But the Manson cover scares more than your average know-nothing fundie-kowtowing superstar. The Old Grey Lady herself, *The New York Times*, refused to print an ad that featured the cover.

"It was determined that the ad was in questionable taste," *Times* spokescreature Lisa Carparelli told *Addicted to Noise* magazine.

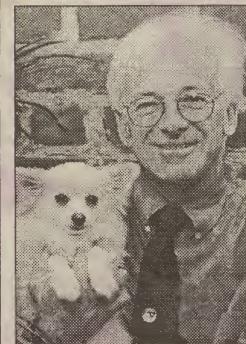
We're glad that the local branch of Virgin megastores has a larger-than-life-size picture of the Manson album right on Market

Street. Now we need a larger-than-life-size canopener to open the American mind.

Bombs away

Oh and by the way, happy nude queer. Out There hopes your *Nude Queer's Eve* was appropriately festive. We found ourselves at several wonderful parties, all within a few blocks' radius of the PG&E substation where they discovered all the ingredients for fertilizer bombs tucked away in that happy employee's locker. Now there's a thumbnail sketch of millennial America for you: drug test your employees within an inch of their lives — God forbid there should be traces of THC in their urine — but don't bother to check to see if their hobbies include bomb-making and merry-making with assorted explosives and combustible fertilizer.

Meanwhile, "Higher Resolution," the New Year's Eve rave and benefit for the Gay Community Center's Fallon Building restoration, held in a giant warehouse space in the Bayview district, drew thousands of young revelers, most of them seemingly straight (or as they say, "questioning"), but with a smattering of queers thrown in.



Jeff Stryker

ET, phone home for nightie

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We're glad that the local branch of Virgin megastores has a larger-than-life-size picture of the Manson album right on Market

One gray-haired eminence stood out in the crowd, party-lover and medicinal pot promoter Dennis Peron, escorted by a group of his young acolytes. We didn't see him dancing, but he seemed to be enjoying the music, the sights (including lots of lovely raver boys), and his many adoring fans.

The bash was put on by Blue Room (the rave-music record label out of London, with a newly opened branch in San Francisco), Pacific Sound, and CCC (famous for its local raves). At one point early in the morning, we heard some particularly awesome sounds emanating from the main dance space, where ultra-fast Goa/psychedelic trance music was being spun for the high masses, and were delighted to discover local queer DJ KJ (aka Keshav Jiwani) manning the turntables. We hadn't seen his name on the original lineup, but no doubt we'll be seeing it more in the near future, because no DJ during the night got the crowd more worked up. His moment in the rave scene clearly has arrived.

After sunrise, we were lingering outside with other die-hard all-nighters when we saw Jimmy Siegel, owner of Distractions head shop on upper Haight Street and an organizer of the event, finally looking relaxed after having worked the door all night. He told us the bash had netted \$7,000 for work on the Fallon Building, and hopes the city will permit more raves of this kind, with charitable purposes and peaceful crowds. Thankfully, we saw no drunks in the place, nor even any alcohol (only water and vitamin-enriched "smart drinks" were provided). Instead, all was pure ecstasy. ▼

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Dark truths

William Friedkin films at the Roxie Cinema

by Gary Morris

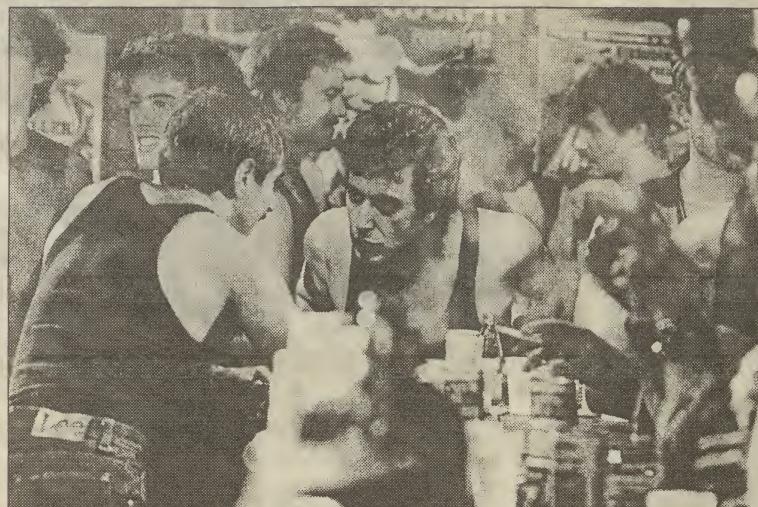
William Friedkin's career is a study in contradictions. A liberal intellectual by nature who made two of the most notorious works of queer cinema — *The Boys in the Band* (1970) and *Cruising* (1980) — he's long been one of the gay community's demons. Seemingly innocent comedies like the Sonny and Cher vehicle *Good Times* (1967) and that loving paean to vaudeville, *The Night They Raided Minsky's* (1968), were soon followed by brutal policiers (*The French Connection*, 1971) and nihilistic gorefests (*The Exorcist*, 1973). Friedkin's vision is broad enough to support both the popular hackwork of Robin Moore or William Peter Blatty, and the high-class high-jinks of a Harold Pinter. The trick is that, for the most part, Friedkin shows little fidelity to his sources. Readers of *The French Connection* won't recognize that book in the movie, just as his version of *Cruising* mostly jettisoned the original story.

Friedkin uses his sources simply as a springboard for his own unerringly bleak world-view; he sees life as a grim mystery that can never be solved and refuses to offer pat solutions. Human identity is wavering, unstable, violent; thus in *Jade* (1995), a respected psychologist has a double life as a whore; in *Cruising* a respected cop may be a closet case and gay-killer; in *The French Connection* and *To Live and Die in L.A.* (1985), the so-called bad guys appear as intelligent and refined businessmen, while the cops are slobbering psychos so out of control they kill their own comrades. Sometimes this refusal to clarify the characters and their activities backfires; much has been made of the opaque plot of *Cruising*, and Friedkin himself fueled that fire with comments like, "I myself was not sure whether there was one killer or more than one. It's ambiguous."

Friedkin's insistence on telling his dark truths — "there is no subject that is off limits to filmmaker," he once said — has resulted in a career studded with controversy and breakthroughs. Many newspapers (including the *Los Angeles Times*) refused even to run the ads for *The Boys in the Band*, but the film, a first in forcing a skittish public to take a close look at the particulars of gay life, became part of cinema legend anyway. In *The Exorcist*, Friedkin rubs audiences' noses in demon possession, the failure of religion, and the foulest-mouthed teenybopper in movie history. ("Your mother sucks cocks in hell!" surely should be in *Bartlett's* as one of the most-quoted-ever lines.) Not surprisingly, one astute theater manager had his staff carry smelling salts and scatter kitty litter through the aisles to absorb the vomit that poured out of retching viewers. *The French Connection* was another groundbreaking. It set the standard for modern chase scenes in Popeye Doyle's breathtaking tear through New York City that many still believe resulted in injuries. (Friedkin himself manned one of the cameras for this white-knuckle ride.)

Deviants on parade

Friedkin's specialty is the deviant demimonde — the leather scene in *Cruising*, the criminal



Al Pacino in William Friedkin's controversial 1980 film, *Cruising*.

underground in many of the films — and the fiercely bound band of outsiders who populate it. He also usually includes an outsider, a spectator who stands in for the audience observing this demi-monde in action. In *The Boys in the Band*, it's the possibly straight Alan, who's there to give voice — and it's not a pretty sound — to middlebrow homophobia. In *Jade*, it's David, the straightlaced cop who, like the audience, is pulled ever deeper into an increasingly squalid, chaotic world of sex, money, and power."

But Friedkin himself is in many ways a neutral observer, exploring his subterranean worlds without judging them. If anything, his sympathies are closer to the "criminals" — he makes their vitality and power appealing. In *The French Connection*, the drug dealers, about whom we learn little, seem more human than Gene Hackman's pathological Popeye. In *Cruising* — clueless queer critics to the contrary — it's the leather boys who are the targeted innocents, gyrating and popper-sniffing their way to a pleasure that harms no one, while the cops (read: society) are shaking down, brutalizing, raping, and probably murdering gays.

What makes Friedkin's disturbing, seemingly unpalatable films work so effectively are his brilliant formal manipulations. The man who says he doesn't know how many killers there are in *Cruising* has also been called "the purest and most impersonal technician" in cinema. The exorcism sequence in *The Exorcist*, the chase scenes in *The French Connection*, *Jade*, and *To Live and Die in L.A.*, and the murders in *Cruising* are bravura examples of formal control. Friedkin's perfectionism alienated some actors and crew members, but his dynamic cutting and subtle sound manipulations force the viewer to live the action in a way few other modern filmmakers have achieved. This is Friedkin's genius: making audiences come to terms with what the title character in *Jade* calls "the darkness within us." This "darkness" pervades the films; in *Sorcerer*, Friedkin's tense remake of Clouzot's classic *Wages of Fear*, what starts as a dangerous trek through the jungle soon becomes an exercise in existential

terror, made real by the director's superb staging of this difficult material and his gradual envelopment of his characters in chaos.

In recent years, Friedkin has worked as much in TV as in movies, on shows like *The Twilight Zone*, *C.A.T. Squad*, and even an episode of *Tales from the Crypt*. This may be less an indicator of his failings than a sign that, in spite of his past successes, the cul-

ture can no longer accommodate an artist so critical of the philosophical and social status quo. ▼

A Tribute to William Friedkin
plays the Roxie Cinema Friday, January 8 through Thursday, January 14; Friedkin's *The Boys in the Band* plays the Roxie Jan. 15-21 (see Gary Morris' review next week).

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Sex in the city

'Like It Is' at the Lumiere

by Allan Gassman

Sincerely and expertly executed, *Like It Is* is probably the best adult gay love story movie ever made. It's ostensibly the story of a small-town, working-class boy who escapes from his dead-end existence to the big city in search of a future and an understanding of his burgeoning gay feelings. His experiences with the experienced, and his realization that life can be very different, but just as dead-end, in another world, cause him to learn about love and the harsh realities of hu-

Craig (Steve Bell) is a low-born kid living in Blackpool, England, a seedy resort/amusement park city. When introduced, he is hovering outside Flamingo's, the smallish town's gay hotspot. His silent conflict is clear: he knows he's gay, but crossing that threshold into "the gay world" is anathema. We know he has been here before, probably often. On the night that Matt (*Tom Rose*), an ex-

perienced, London-based, slightly older queer, comes to Blackpool. Craig's rough but simple life is irrevocably changed. Matt is there to promote his client/roommate/dance diva/fag-hag friend Paula, who is performing at the club. Bored by the scene, Matt hands Paula a hit of Ecstasy and heads out to the street, where he encounters Craig.

The extremely attractive young men quickly, yet with extremely realistic naturalness, wind up at Craig's flat. The sex begins far too quickly, at Craig's desperate initiation, and ends powerfully in a heart-rending and funny moment of panic. Despite an unceremonious eviction, Matt tosses his card on the bedtable and tells Craig to call him if he wants.

At his "job" as a bare-knuckles, no-rules streetfighter, Craig takes his frustration out on an older opponent, beating the shit out of him. His big brother Tony is seriously concerned; sure, this is an illegal and violent activity, but Craig has gone way too far, something is wrong. Craig blows him off.



Roger Daltrey, Ian Rose, and Steve Bell in Paul Oremland's *Like It Is*

After he refuses to fight a leaner, meaner, "crazy" opponent, Craig is offered a more sleazy and ruthless job. After another dramatic moment of decision, he winds up on the doorstep of Matt and Paula.

Meanwhile, in London, Matt has been obsessing about "the Blackpool boy" while running his "one-night" clubs, handling Paula, and negotiating with his bitter, jaded, manipulative former sugar-daddy and mentor, Kelvin, for a nightclub of his own.

for a magician of his own.

When Craig appears and is welcomed into the flat by Matt, both Kelvin and Paula are charmed and jealous and begin to attempt to destroy this new and fragile relationship. They ridicule Craig for his past sexual history and penchant for imitation street trash, and insist that even though he is not a fake, this is just another fleeting fling. And they do everything in their considerable combined power to make sure that is the case. It doesn't help that Matt introduces Craig to his world too fast.

At a club one night, Matt gives Craig his first hit of Ecstasy. When

Matt's head is turned for a moment, some guy persists in pinching Craig's nipples, which flare an eruption of his violent temper. Craig tells Matt he needs a job but Matt says he's not ready yet and should just "find his feet." Craig takes a job at a low-end gas

Craig takes a job at a low-end gay bar, where he immediately smashes a bottle onto the head of an arrogant gay-baiter. Paula expands her diva demands on Matt, and Kelvin offers him a club if he helps with the launch of a new "pretty boy" singing group, one of whom, Jamie, Matt tricked with twice — and who has a really big dick.

The machinations and manipulations lead to confrontations, conflagrations, and reconciliations until the finale, where the choice must be made among true love, a highly successful career, and a healthy life.

and a healthy life.

Steve Bell, the current holder of the U.K.'s Amateur Boxing Association's Featherweight Title, makes his film debut here as Craig; he is an amazing natural talent and unparalleled fighter. Openly gay and clearly gorgeous with marvelously expressive eyes,

a chiseled body, powerful charisma, vulnerability, and depth, this young man could — and should — become a major star (The Hollywood powers-that-be would probably have him do something about his slightly oversized ears. This reviewer sees them as a charming quirk.)

Ian Rose, as Matt, portrays a more subtle, but equally conflicted character with warmth, flair and intelligence. Also openly gay, Ian brings his experience on London's stages and television, and his great looks to this demanding role with laudable skill and compassion.

Dani Behr, an actual diva in England, has a tremendous presence in the role of Paula, a vicious, conniving, self-centered bitch. Nobody who has ever been backstage with a major pop singer or famous drag queen will deny her amazingly dead-on performance.

amazing, lead on performances. Christopher Hargreaves shines in the smallish role of Tony, Craig's gruff but deeply loving brother. His performance is strong, endearing and sometimes very funny.

very funny.

And Roger Daltry (yes, from The Who) is honestly astounding in what must be considered a groundbreaking performance as a nasty, vicious, plastic surgery-addicted bitter older queen with a penchant for using young boys and making money, and an evil disdain for love and humanity. Daltry's performance of Kelvin is marvelously wicked, bitterly funny and — deity help us — lovable.

Like It Is is remarkable in so many ways. Directed brilliantly by first-timer Paul Oremland, written exquisitely by Robert Gray, and photographed beautifully by Alistair Cameron, the story is honest and touching and real, the sex scenes are truly hot, the fights are stunningly brutal, and the depictions of the club world make 54 look like a cartoon.

34 look like a cartoon.

Already compared to *Beautiful Thing*, *Like It Is* is really pretty dissimilar. Where *Thing* is a lovely but simpler coming out story, *Like It Is* is a more complex and detailed adult love story. Only a Scrooge like Daltry's cold-blooded and hopeless Kelvin would consider this movie anything less than fabulous. ▼

Like It Is opens Friday, Jan. 8
at the Lumiere Theatre.

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Photo: Lois Tema



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UnCut

◀ Arts cover

of the typewriter" and "the birth of music video." Despite its alleged demise, the typewriter plays a key role throughout. In a wonderful running gag, the main characters cruise or otherwise communicate with each other by pretending to type, with their words running across the screen as they type. This witty conceit plays off the idea that gay people have developed a kind of telepathy (aka gaydar) in response to repression.

In the opening sequence, a man named Peter Cort (Matthew Ferguson) brings a manuscript on "The Psychosexual Meanings of Circumcision and the Foreskin" to a Pierre Trudeau-obsessed typist, Peter Koosens (Michael Achtmann). From this scene we learn tidbits such as the fact that "85 percent of American males continue to be clipped each year at the cost of half a billion dollars." Greyson, à la Greenaway, brings the terror of circumcision disturbingly home by thoughtfully inserting footage of an actual operation into a small windowbox within the frame.

Parallel to Peter Cort's fixation on circumcision is a dazzling array of plot strands. Peter Koosens's lust for Pierre Trudeau is noticed by a female cop, who trails him as he wanders near the prime minister's residence. (She also turns out to be an opera singer.) This Peter also fabricates photographs showing him and his would-be beloved together, and writes letters suggesting at least a massage. Meanwhile, a third Peter comes on the scene: Peter Denham (Damion Oliveira), a video artist with a yen for the Jackson Five. Having all the main characters named Peter is the film's own ingenious pitch for a sexually liberated, "uncut" world.

The third Peter dates the other two, but alienates Peter the typist by appropriating the latter's fake photos into a revamped Jackson Five video. Meanwhile, the three are arrested and sent to an open-air "prison," where they're forced to study dryer lint and mucus. Trudeau ends up in a coma, but is saved at the last minute by Peter Cort, who slips an unusual medicine into the P.M.'s mouth.

Interwoven with these narrative threads are striking interpolations of documentary footage of Trudeau declaring a state of martial law, artists and writers describing their problems with copyright infringement and sampling, censorship laws, and historical info about circumcision and censorship. Greyson finds rich parallels in real life to the film's fictional high-jinks. Peter Denham's lust for the Jackson Five is augmented with an interview with John Oswald, who altered Michael Jackson's video *Bad* to graft the head of the "King of Pop" onto a Nude Miss America body. Oswald's sleight-of-hand apparently amused Jackson, but the lawyers put an end to it. The film's fake Trudeau — a comatose old man on a hospital bed — is contrasted with footage of actress Linda Griffiths doing a fabulous genderbender interpretation of him, a performance that also skirted libel. Artist A. A. Bronson, a vehement enemy of copyright, talks eloquently about his appropriation of Robert Indiana's famous LOVE logo and changing it to AIDS.

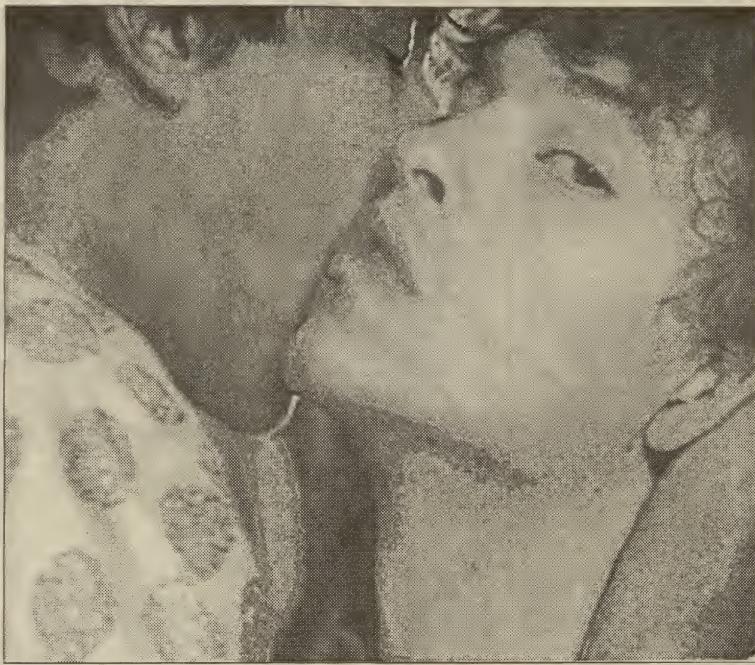
Control queens

Greyson's point, sometimes implied and sometimes stated, is that culture evolves and must be

allowed to do so. Copyright and ruthless image control by corporations, the state, and individual artists are forms of repression, artificial checks that threaten artistic progress. There's no more chilling evidence of this than in the sequence with Tom Waugh, who describes a truly bizarre process of "historical morphing" that irreparably damaged his book on gay erotic imagery, *Hard to Imagine*. Skittish lawyers forced him to computer-alter or substitute the faces of people in sexual positions, creating sometimes inexplicable effects. In one picture from the 1950s, the replacement of a happy young hunk with what looked like "a 50-year-old Tory" made a playful nude tug-of-war into a "political allegory." In another picture, the computer artist substituted his androgynous girlfriend's face for the original. So much for historical truth.

Hostile reviewers (straight?) have said this film is a short stretched to feature length, but given its conceptual richness, *UnCut* will strike other eyes as too brief at 92 minutes to contain all of Greyson's ideas. ▼

UnCut plays the Castro Theatre January 8-14.



Matthew Ferguson stars as Peter Cort in John Greyson's *UnCut*

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Diving down deep

Anne Darragh in 'A Common Vision'

by Deborah Peifer

have been lucky enough in my theatre-going life to see some extraordinary productions, chief among them the Eureka Theatre premiere of *Angels in America*. In that production, local artist Anne Darragh created the definitive Harper Pitt, that tragically addled, wisely foolish, astonishingly moving character. I've seen Darragh since then, of course, and have been consistently impressed at her uncanny ability to dive deep into the soul of a character and to bring us all its complexities and terrors and joys. A chance to speak with an actor of her caliber is not to be missed, certainly not by me.

Given my own assessment of her skills, I expected Darragh to say she'd been acting since birth, but the truth is much more interesting. "I completely backed into acting," she explains. "I was going to be a writer. But in high school I thought I could take an acting class; at least, I didn't think anyone could stop me from taking a class. So I started acting in high school, and did a double major including theatre in college, but I didn't commit to acting until years after college.

"My first professional job was in *A Late Show* at Theatre Rhinoceros, but I didn't join [Actors'] Equity until *Angels in America*. Becoming an actor was a gradual

process. There is a lack of validation in our culture for a job that doesn't pay or that isn't full-time. That said, I will tell you that my mother said that when I was five I told her that I was going to be a dancer and a singer and that she could be my agent, but I don't remember that at all."

Darragh's current project is the role of Dolores in *A Common Vision* at the Magic Theatre, directed by Mary Coleman. "It's been great working with Mary," she enthuses. "She's a director whose work I admire. She knows how to create a really great rehearsal atmosphere, one in which it's OK to try things out. The play is about a witnessed alien abduction. [Playwright] Neena Beber is fascinated by the people who are fascinated by alien abduction. The play is a comedy about the search for meaning, about trying to do something with our sense of longing for the meaning of life. The most difficult part for me is keeping a straight face with the other, very funny cast members."

A Common Vision runs January 13-February 14 at the Magic Theatre, Fort Mason. Call 441-8822.

Etcetera

Now that the saccharine sea-

son is over, we have an explosion of dramatic, comic, and musical delights. *Juno and the Paycock*, Sean O'Casey's masterful combination of pathos and cynicism that deals with the horrors of Ireland after the partition, runs at A.C.T. through February 7. The A.C.T. Prologue, a chance to hear what director Giles Havergal thinks of the play, takes place from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. on January 12, and it's free. Also free is A.C.T. Perspectives, a gathering of scholars who discuss the play and its times, on January 25 from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Almost free is bring what you can/pay what you wish on January 14. Just bring canned tuna in water or peanut butter in a plastic container (all food goes to Project Open Hand) and pay what you wish for your ticket. All events take place at the Geary Theatre, Geary at Mason. Call 749-2222.

A Traveling Jewish Theatre offers *Heart of the World*, a tender and troubling tale about intermarriage, January 14-February 7. Also at ATJT, on January 20, *Finif, the Art of the Jewish Doina*, a late 19th-century Eastern European musical tradition marked by rhapsodic instrumental improvisation and passionate song. Part of Jewish Music Wednesdays, *Finif* sounds like just the ticket for our



Anne Darragh in Neena Beber's *A Common Vision*

David Allen

unnaturally cold winter. The January 13 *Worlds Within Words* performance features poetry readings by Phyllis Koestenbaum, Alan Kaufman, and Anita Barrows. All shows take place at ATJT's new theatre at 470 Florida (between 7th and Mariposa). Call 399-1809.

Byron Yee returns with *Paper Sun*, a solo show about the tragedies of ACS, Asian Child Syndrome, in which he recounts, among other hardships, his difficulty in being cast as Chinese because of his inability to speak broken English. *Paper Sun* was the hit of the 1997 Fringe Festival, so if you missed it then, don't miss it again. The show runs through February 14 at the Cliff Osmond

Theatre, 340 Mason at Geary. Call 474-5093.

Finally, if that Christmas cash or Hanukkah gift is weighing heavily in your pocket, consider sending some of it to support the work of Cultural Odyssey and its programs for incarcerated women, Medea Project, theatre for inner-city youth, the African American Performance Festival, and much more. Send your donation to 762 Fulton Street, 94102, or call 292-1850. ▼

If you have gossip, inquiries, or information of a performative nature, send them to peiferd@aol.com, or via snail mail to the B.A.R.

'A Civil Action'

Prosecutably bad

by Allan Gassman

A *Civil Action* is a bad movie, and that's sad considering its powerful cast and the potential of its story. John Travolta is Jan Schlichtmann, a successful personal injury lawyer ("ambulance chaser") with a penchant for big spending and a clear and bitter understanding of the mathematics and manipulation of the civil justice system. His small three-lawyer firm is extremely careful only to take on winnable cases. The humanity involved is irrelevant to them — it's all about money.

Based on a true story and adapted by Steven Zaillian (*Schindler's List*), *A Civil Action* is about the one tough case that the lawyers decide to take on.

Attention: The ending will be revealed in this review. Stop reading now if you don't want to know how it turns out.

Schlichtmann travels to the small town of Woburn, Massachusetts, to tell an assembly of eight families why his firm will not take on their claim that the town's drinking water is poisoning their children, many of whom have died of leukemia. They have nobody to sue, there's just a small tannery in the town. Sorry, goodbye.

Then, coincidentally, he is stopped for a (second) speeding violation, decides to take a walk in the marsh, and discovers that the tannery is controlled by two of the nation's largest corporations, W.R. Grace and Beatrice Foods. He takes the case, blows all of his company's business and financial fortune (\$3 million dollars), and loses against the powerful, deep-pocketed opponents. Everybody is



John Travolta in *A Civil Action*

David James

miserable. The end.

Tag: at the end, screen titles appear explaining that the case was later taken on by the Environmental Protection Agency, who won the biggest settlement in history. Roll credits. Duh.

Travolta is adequate as the pompous lawyer who gives up everything for his belief, which is either that he'll ultimately make a lot of money, or that his labors are for "the people" — which one is his view is left rather vague. Robert Duvall plays the eccentric but connected W.R. Grace lawyer as a rumpled "Columbo." Peter Falk would have been fine. John Lithgow is the clearly corrupt and histrionic judge — over the top and unrealistic. William H. Macy is the small firm's financial counselor — he's the same character type in *Fargo*. Kathleen Quinlan is wasted as one of the mothers with a dead kid.

Meandering and convoluted, slow and unreal, a waste of time and talent, *A Civil Action* has no action and no civility. ▼

A Civil Action opens Friday in the Bay Area.

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TV's 1998 queer bests and worsts

by Victoria A. Brownworth

There's nothing like reflection on the pitfalls of the year just past to uplift us about the year just beginning. So in keeping with the spirit of the season (remember, if one is Russian or Greek Orthodox, today is Christmas), let's review TV's Queer Best and Worst for 1998. (Of course, as with those pesky presents from the in-laws, some alterations will be needed, as there will always be more worsts on TV than in an Alpine village.)

Let us start with the best of queer TV: almost too easy, as there was so little of it. Best Documentary series remains PBS's ever-earnest *In the Life* — still the best introduction to queerness for those newly out (or newly outed) and friends.

Well, that was quicker than a Dennis Rodman marriage. Oh yes, you are wondering about *Will & Grace*. NBC's heir-apparent to *Ellen* gets our nod for Best and Worst (and only) Sit-Com Best because it is routinely hilarious, with enough snap-diva one-liners to captivate us week to week. Worst because this remains a show about sexual safety and stereotypes in the form of two couples: a straight-acting gay man and his fag-hag best friend (the eponymous Will and Grace), and a gay flamer (Jack) and his gay friend's best friend's assistant (Karen); pardon us, but where we come from (Isle of Lesbos and environs), "homo" means "same" — as in same sex, not same TV concept. For the new year, we want Will and Grace to have sex with — or even kiss — members of the appropriate gender. Otherwise, *W&G* will land firmly on our "Worst" list for 1999.

Our Best TV Couple award goes to Tony and Simon on the British import (Channel 54 in SF) *EastEnders*. Sweet, sexy, realistic and oh-so-courant, this is what queer TV was meant to be. *EE* also gets honorable mention for best ongoing HIV/AIDS storyline, featuring longtime character Mark Fowler. This storyline, now in its fourth year, has dealt with nearly every aspect of HIV/AIDS, from telling the folks to discrimination from the community, to fear of dying, to questions about intimacy. Both storylines provide powerful acting, address important issues, and are amazingly different from anything prime time offers stateside.

Most of the Worst Queer Storylines of 1998 came from daytime. ABC's soap *All My Children* let Kevin Shefield, who had been daytime's only gay character, fade away completely after having devoted much of the previous year to a frontburner — and very good — storyline. ABC's *One Life To Live* offered a kitschy but murderous lesbian couple, Charlotte Stonediff and Sonya Cramer, who ended up immolated to a Wagnerian chorus. NBC's *Sunset Beach* gave us impregnation most foul with its creepy turkey-baster rape of Vanessa by Virginia.

Half-and-halves

Prime time had more half-and-halves than a Thai whorehouse. There were the usual sexu-



Lucy Lawless (Best Pecs) and Renée O'Connor (Best Bottom)

al psychopaths — John Larocque's gay serial killer on ABC's *The Practice*; Fox's *Felicity* made us worry about the route young girls take after repeated viewings of *Titanic* and *Dawson's Creek*. (Could it lead to Lewinsky Syndrome? Let's hope not, as this year's endless miniseries, *Monica and Bill*, made us yearn for reruns of *Friends*.)

Speaking of sex with implements, Queer Hall of Fame awards to Lucy Lawless for her continuing perfection wielding truncheons and maces as Xena, Lesbian Princess, and to Renée O'Connor for Best Bottom as Xena's playmate Gabrielle. Best Queer Director/Producer of a prime time series: *NYPD Blue*'s Paris Barclay. Not only one of the most acclaimed African-American directors/producers on TV, he has synthesized realistic queer characterizations into what is arguably the best prime time show on TV. *Blue* continues to maintain a standard of queer consciousness. Honorable mentions to *Desperate Housewives* as a regular director for *Blue*, and to Bill Bockstrap for his role as a recurring queer character.

Best Queer Moment: the kiss between teen hotties Joseph Gordon-Levitt (*3rd Rock from the Sun*) and Topher Grace on an episode of the otherwise tedious Fox item *That 70s Show*. Best Subliminal Queer Sit-Com for Kids remains the incredibly gay *Sabrina, the Teenage Witch*. After a brief fling with trying to go straight at the beginning of the season, the show has since returned to its campy queer roots. Guest stars have included RuPaul — in drag (we mean dressed as a man) and out — and Johnny Mathis. Need we say more? Minor honors to ABC's *Spin City*, NBC's *Mad About You* and *Veronica's Closet*, which present recurring queer characters, and NBC's *ER*, *Homicide*, and *Law & Order*, which offer regular queer storylines and characters. Best Camp: *Will &*

Grace, with special honors to Sean Hayes' Jack, the flamboyant *Slayer*. Best Commercial: *Tidy Cats Litter*, with the little fag kitties dishing Best Pecs: Xena. Best Butch Affect: A three-way (we wish) between *NYPD Blue*'s Kirkendall (Andrea



Flip over

On the flip side, Worst Queer Character on a prime time show remains Doc Hancock on CBS's *Chicago Hope*. (If we hadn't witnessed his coming out twice, we wouldn't have believed it really happened.) A tragic waste of African-American actor Vondie Curtis-Hall, who could have imbued this character with the depth he gives all his performances.

Runner-up in this category is Nathan Lane in NBC's in-aptly named *Encore! Encore!* (which should be titled *Oh How the Mighty Have Fallen*). Lane as a washed-up opera star we believe. Lane as a womanizer and scion of an Italian wine dynasty run by Mama Maria (the superb Joan Plowright) and sister Francesca (the sublime Glenne Headley) is a bit much, even for those of us able to suspend disbelief when a 300-pound Butterly waddles onstage at the Met.

Worst Queer Moment: Richard Simmons tonguing Roseanne over a shared sandwich on the latter's talkfest. Talk about instant emetics. Other stomach-churners include Worst Show: *The Howard Stern Show*, which makes *Texas Chainsaw Massacre* seem appetizing; Worst Pecs: David Hasselhoff on *Baywatch* has more bounce to the ounce than Grandma's aspic — time to ask Pamela Lee where she got hers; Worst TV Hair: Sam Donaldson on ABC's *This Week* (what is that on his head?); Worst Examples of Glamorizing Anorexia: Calista Flockhart on *Ally McBeal* and *Dateline's* Maria Shriver. Worst Drag Queens: anyone on ABC's *The Drew Carey Show*; Worst Rebirth: the new, holier-than-thou self-help Oprah; Worst Use of Former TV Icons: Old Navy commercials and ABC's 20/20.

Remember, mid-season replacements debut next week. Beware the Ides of January — oh, and Happy New Year. ▼

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Sexual orientation

by Jim Nawrocki

Queer PAPI Porn: Gay Asian Erotica edited by Joel B. Tan; Cleis Press, \$14.95

The title of *Queer PAPI Porn* is a curious one, for a couple of reasons. First, there's the acronym, PAPI. As editor Joel B. Tan explains in his brief introduction to the book, PAPI stands for Pilipinos (the currently favored spelling of the word), Asians and

Pacific Islanders. Tan announces right off that this book is unique — the first-ever collection of gay male porn by PAPI men. The second point of interest about the title is its use of the word "porn." Most of us define pornographic writing as that which is unabashedly sexual, without the trappings of plot, character development, etc. More than a few of the stories in this collection, however, clearly stand a few notches above mere pornography.

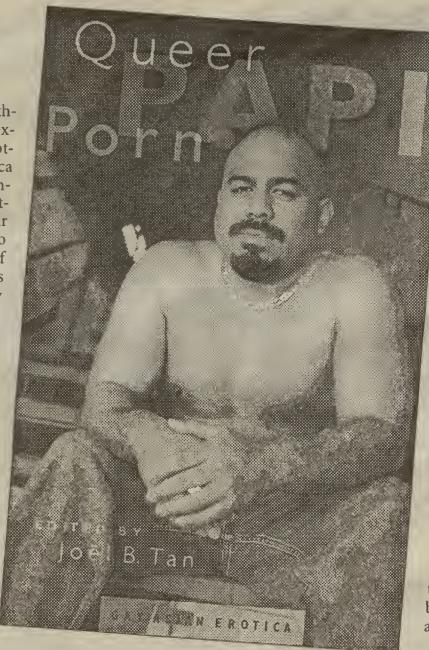
So what, one may ask, is the

point of putting together an anthology of exclusively gay Asian erotica (or of gay erotica devoted to any one ethnic group, for that matter)? Tan makes it clear that his project is to fight the stereotypes of the gay Asian male as "feminine, physically diminutive, and submissive," and to illuminate the complexities of the gay Asian experience. The stories in the collection certainly help to do that. And, as the "porn" in the title promises, the writers collected in this anthology also help celebrate the erotic beauty and sexuality of gay Asian males.

Not surprisingly, many of the offerings in the book deal with the familiar trappings of gay sexuality: cruising, anonymous sex, and the bar scene, albeit with an Asian coloring. Jay Ruben Dayrit's "Our Sunday Afternoon Together," for example, tells the story of a Castro cruise that leads to a spontaneous, sexy rendezvous at a Muni stop. Virgil Vang's "Mimesis" describes, quite appealingly, a young Asian man's initiation into an exclusive troupe of sexual performers. Other stories chronicle similar exploits. This is not to contradict Tan's assertion that the book is not "vanilla with a dash of the orient." Most of the tales in the book offer some insight, or at least attempt to provoke thought about the relationship between sexual desire, racial identity, and even history.

Across time

One of the best stories in the collection, "The Widow Season" by Philip Huang (whose appear-



excerpts from previously published works. These include "King Rubber" from Lawrence Chua's 1998 novel *Gold by the Inch*, and Justin Chin's "Bite." The selection from Chua's novel is significant because it is as much an examination of Asian history (metaphorically, at least) as it is an exploration of gay Asian sexuality. Chin's piece is perhaps closer to prose poetry than fiction; in fact, it reads like a performance piece, with layers of voice and a raw sexuality that make one want to see and hear it, rather than simply read it. Ferd Eggan's lyrical piece "Asia/Pacific Overtures" also blurs the boundaries between prose and poetry.

While most of the stories in *Queer PAPI Porn* deal with gay Asian characters and their lovers, there are exceptions, and some odd variations. John Tunui's "Liberty," for example, depicts an erotic and politically charged romp between a black man and blonde Frenchman. Chen Lin's "A Hand in the Dark" is told from the point of view of a gay dwarf who admires from afar, and eventually catches, the "pretty boy" who is the object of his desire. Jason Guillermo Luz's "Scherzo for Cunanan" is a curiously thoughtful examination of the last days of that famous-for-fifteen-minutes gay serial killer, Andrew Cunanan. It's an odd mix, and that's one of the things that makes *Queer PAPI Porn* enjoyable. The book delivers — to those who want a fuller picture of the gay Asian identity, and to those who simply want to fantasize about the beauty of gay Asian men. ▀

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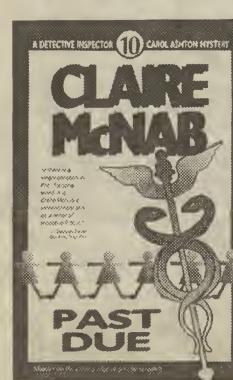
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Send in the clones

by Deborah Peifer

Past Due by Claire McNab; Naiad, \$11.95

A lot of mystery writers create plots about which the phrase "ripped from today's headlines" is both accurate and decidedly disparaging. They ladle trendy topics on their narratives like canned gravy on fake mashed potatoes. Then there is Claire McNab. An anti-government militia, serial killers, stalkers, homophobia, AIDS, misogyny: McNab's mysteries have dealt with all of that and more, but the key word here is more. McNab writes mysteries that entertain hugely, but she always has important things to say as well. Her latest Carol Ashton mystery (the tenth, and not a dud in the bunch) turns on questions of reproductive technology, and it is in the turning that McNab takes us heart and mind to the dark side of those technologies. The result is a seriously entertaining and thought-provoking novel, one that may change what you think about the business of making babies. And if you are the least uncomfortable with the notion of



cloning, *Past Due* will increase that discomfort by at least an order of magnitude.

Detective Inspector Carol Ashton arrives at the scene of a grisly murder, the victim charred to a crisp, his incinerated head clearly bludgeoned. As Carol and her troops investigate the murder, the trick becomes finding someone who doesn't have a motive for murder. The crispy critter is Dr. Brin Halstead, an expert in genetic research, who takes his position as giver of life with an arrogance that is truly frightening. His wife,

his co-workers, his patients, his victims — any one of them may have killed the bad doctor. But who really did it? Are the few discoverable clues planted to frame an innocent? Is anyone innocent?

The regular characters in this series are drawn with real skill, and it's a pleasure to come across them in the novel, to learn new things about them, and about ourselves, along the way. The heart of the novel, though, is Carol Ashton. She may just be the most interesting fictional detective around, with a mind of steel and a heart that sometimes appears to be made of that very same metal. Through her, but without ever lecturing, McNab explores the ethical, moral and practical questions around issues of cloning and reproduction. I especially like that she offers no pat or easy answers. Instead, she makes us think, without ever disrupting the suspense. *Past Due* is a very entertaining novel, with more than a few seriously creepy moments. I'd read this one with the doors locked and all the lights on if I were you. Of course, if one of the villains is the doctor to whom you've entrusted your happiness, are there enough locks in the world to make you feel safe? ▀

Indian love calls

by Timothy Pfaff

It turns out to have been little more than coincidence that two gay-themed books set in India from the same publisher — England's Gay Men's Press — turned up on the new releases table at A Different Light at the same time a few months back. Although the two novels — Jeremy Seabrook's *Colonies of the Heart* and P. Parivaraj's *Shiva and Arun* — are as different as their rice-and-potatoes and sticky-rice perspectives (respectively) would decree, they're both likely to exert a strong fascination on anyone interested in gay life elsewhere, gay travel in Asia, and the combination of the two in South Asia in particular.

It's more than a little interesting that, at a time when so-called Anglo-Indian literature is enjoying an unprecedented flowering — just keeping up with the new releases in this burgeoning subgenre is a task in itself — explicitly gay, even gay-centric fiction is carving out its own place in the merciless South Asian sun. As seems to be true of so much of the emerging gay literature of countries where the love dare not speak its name, it speaks it first — articulately — in English.

In short, it's remarkable that these books were written, and published, at all. In their very different ways, they evince a candor that stakes out new terrain, bravely if not always with grace and style. Yet they open doors — have no doubt: closet doors — that have long wanted opening, and for this alone gratitude is due enterprising Gay Men's Press.

Although its narrative voice is decidedly Anglo, *Colonies of the Heart* is as attentive to the inner life of its Indian character, Prakash, as it is to the rather more self-absorbed concerns of Frank, the British traveler who has to face his own private Hindustan when he finds himself suddenly involved with the mysterious stranger he meets in Delhi. Lest there be any doubt that one of his concerns is not to recapitulate his own country's all-too-recent imperialism, "Frank" confides it up front.

The seeming naivete of the "uncertain" Prakash in the first sexual encounter with Frank, his seeming unawareness of his own beauty (he's a trained athlete, his imagined way out of the cultural constraints of his rural birth), induces "a twinge of guilt in the older man," who "had, of course, heard of Westerners who go to the Third World and buy young women and men," Seabrook writes. "But then, he reflected, it had not been he who had initiated this encounter."

That thought, and others like it, supplant the "older man's" intentions to act responsibly, whatever the circumstances. Ultimately, Frank's desire to control his less-empowered lover does at least as much to destroy their relationship as does the arranged marriage to which Prakash consents, not once thinking it could mean

the end of a "friendship" he quite believably says he has from the beginning seen as "for life." The real candor of this novel is its startling unblinking portrayal of Frank's inner processes throughout the affair, some of which are remarkably tender as well as p.c., others shockingly exploitative.

It doesn't get grittier, psychologically, than the first time Frank, frustrated by his

and savouring its changing moods."

The book's weakness is that it tends to explain more than it shows, as a great novel would, such dynamics. Its strength is that it talks about them at all. Frank's most unsavory thoughts are ones any Western gay traveler to Asia might entertain, his bewilderments and frustrations all too familiar. In *Colonies of the Heart*, they're given a voice, a necessary step to getting beyond

Indian subcontinent's gay people — the sometimes fatal effects of arranged marriages only chief among them — makes *Shiva and Arun* more than a stroke book. Its characters are well drawn and sufficiently sympathetic that one quickly comes to care about them. But there's no mistaking the fact that any time more than ten pages go by without an explicit (and soon predictable) sexual encounter, the author has merely temporarily lost his way.

Your interest in this book is sure to be directly proportional to your fascination about Indian boys having sex with each other, but that's not to diminish its significance. Even in the relative anonymity of his *nom de plume* — in standard Indian practice, the P. is an abbreviation of the surname, followed by the first name in a full form by which the individual is probably seldom addressed — the author has been both defiant of his culture's repression and charming, even delightful, about it

in the bargain. There's a wickedly high-spirited sense of seditious eroticism in most of the trysts in *Shiva and Arun* that one too rarely encounters in Western gay erotica.

As it happens, GMP's large catalog includes far more than books about India. While sorely in need of proofreading, their otherwise handsome books fill an important void. For a complete catalog, write GMP Publishers, Ltd., P.O. Box 247, Swaffham, Norfolk, PE37 8 PA, England. ▼



inability to control Prakash or his culture, determines to return home and feels immediate relief: "He thought of the friends to whom he could narrate the eventful encounters of his trip, and could imagine their envious interest as he passed around the photographs of Prakash," writes Seabrook. "This cheered him: the prestige value of his relationship, in a status-obsessed culture. Almost immediately, he was overcome by regret and guilt at the thought that recounting, contemplating the relationship could be more important than living it

pathology and back into the love that attracts across cultures in the first place. One of the levels on which the novel functions best is as a cautionary tale; Prakash discovers purpose and a measure of happiness in his new marriage and home in Rishikesh, while Frank finds bitterness, and whores, back home in London.

More than strokes

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Navigating the minefield of new music

John Cale, John Adams, Marcus Roberts on CD

by Philip Campbell

If those gift certificates you got for stocking stuffers from Tower or Virgin Records are burning a hole in your pocket, don't rush out to redeem them just yet. Several intriguing compact discs released by important modern artists should be approached with caution.

All of the composers and performers discussed here command loyal fan bases, but none of their latest recordings can be deemed totally successful, and it would be a shame to waste those precious gifts without first heeding a few caveats.

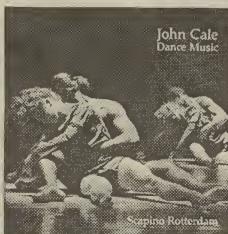
Dance Music (Music for Nico, the ballet) — John Cale (Detour)

Songwriter, composer and performer John Cale has made an indelible mark on contemporary music. His solo efforts and numerous collaborations with such luminaries as Lou Reed and Brian Eno have made him a star with the intelligentsia, but it is his exquisite use of language that makes his work comparable with the best art songs.

cappella rendition of *Nibelungen*.

Wubbe may have created a meaningful statement with his movement, but *Nico, the ballet* is presented by Detour Records as an aural experience and, sadly, without his words to save him, Cale scores a major miss.

The music is interesting but bland, and soon devolves into nothing more than high-toned noodling. Some of the writer's signature riffs spark the atmosphere, though the overall effect is like sonic wallpaper. When Nico's haunting voice appears at the end, we are forced to admit the mediocrity of what has gone before. I will probably return to the score, but only as a fan who is fascinated by John Cale's art, even when it is less than compelling.



His skills as a singer are modest and his piano-playing rudimentary, but Cale has a knack for writing catchy "hooks" that give his music the illusion of being tuneful, while his wonderfully eloquent and mysterious words make the songs unforgettable.

Cale's career has been long and prolific. His friendship with Andy Warhol and the Factory crowd of the late sixties brought ex-model, sometime singer/performance artist Nico into his life. Her enigmatic personality, great beauty and genuine poetic talent had an influence on his own style and philosophy. It isn't surprising that he should seize the chance to remember her in a commissioned score for a ballet choreographed by Ed Wubbe for Scapino Ballet Rotterdam.

The composer admits to a certain awe in approaching such an abstract concept as Nico's life, and stresses the mood of his music over any biographical content. A few taped words from Nico herself are interpolated, and the last cut on the album is her own a



I Was Looking at the Ceiling and then I Saw the Sky — John Adams/June Jordan; Various Artists, J. Adams, Cond. (Nonesuch)

When will the gifted academic liberals learn to avoid speaking for the underprivileged? Paul Simon suffered a humiliating defeat with his Broadway fiasco, *Capeman*, and John Adams has been brought to his knees by June Jordan's libretto for *I Was Looking at the Ceiling and then I Saw the Sky*.

The ill-fated venture was staged in Berkeley by Adams' frequent collaborator Peter Sellars some time ago, and the critical drubbing they took might have precluded a compact disc release were it not for the importance of the composer's reputation.

There are moments when the show almost sounds like it might take off and become enjoyable, but the numbing banality of Jordan's derivative text always crashes the concept back to earth.

Imagine a sort of post-minimalist musical with hopeless pretensions of social significance and you will have some idea of what the composer intended. What saves *Ceiling/Sky* from being a total failure are a few rousing en-

semble numbers and some really lovely ballads. The ubiquitous Audra McDonald and talented Richard Muenz make the most of the material, along with a vocally impressive cast that includes Marin Mazzie.

If you are looking for an authentic musicalization of youthful angst, try *Rent*. This piece has the cringe factor of your hipster aunt trying to work "hella" into the conversation.



The Joy of Joplin — Marcus Roberts (Sony Classical)

Pride of place goes to Marcus Roberts' new homage to an icon of American music, Scott Joplin. A previous disc devoted to Duke Ellington was far more successful, primarily due to that great master's chameleon talents. Joplin, the father of ragtime and a stickler for interpretive discipline, is less well-suited to Roberts' artistic license.

There is not a track on the new disc that does not remind us of the brilliant young pianist's intent — to show the natural progression of jazz and of Joplin's stature as a serious musician. The trouble lies with Roberts' refusal to allow us a single bar of simple contemplation. Joplin carefully notated his work and ferociously demanded a measured approach. Roberts embellishes every line and even adds a few compositions of his own to drive his point home.

Critics and connoisseurs have long ago decided to accept jazz as an American art form, and *The Joy of Joplin* certainly compares favorably with much contemporary chamber music. Unfortunately, Roberts' reach sometimes exceeds his grasp, and the occasional lapses in technique are noticeable.

Try to savor this release alongside Joshua Rifkin's dazzling renditions from the seventies (still available on Nonesuch). The purity of Rifkin's approach to Joplin's life-affirming art is a tonic to Roberts' fascinating but slightly overwrought meditations. ▼

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Exotica

This exotic-looking instrument is a koto, a Japanese zither, and it's being played by koto virtuoso and jazz artist Miya Masaoka. Masaoka will perform the Concerto No. 1 for Koto and Orchestra by Henry Cowell with the California Symphony at two concerts, Sun., Jan. 10 at 7:30 p.m. and Tues., Jan. 12 at 8 p.m., at the Dean Lesher Regional Center for the Arts in exotic Walnut Creek. The program also includes Beethoven's Symphony No. 2 and Elgar's "Enigma" Variations. Call (925) 943-SHOW. ▼



Helmut Newton

◀ Arts cover

Here hundreds of his images are presented in the context for which they were made — in decades worth of spreads for European editions of *Vogue* and other glossy women's magazines.

It's a smart move. *Pages* places Newton's images in a populist framework, one enhanced by text and layout, where they sparkle far more than in a stuffy old art book. This large, hefty publication — "Photographers are an egotistical lot and crave big pages for their pictures," he writes — has the same kind of compulsive, culture vulture appeal as poring over bound volumes of old magazines for retro fashion and graphic design inspirations.

The reproduced spreads, starting with a demure beach scene from 1956 and ending with a far, far flashier Monte Carlo wedding dress scenario from last summer, conjure up a kaleidoscope of international pop cultural references, often with enduring nostalgic overtones. These are images that inspired and reflect Roxy Music album covers, Fiorucci ads, the clone-babe back-up band in those Robert Palmer videos, and couture cinema classics such as *Blow Up* and *The Eyes of Laura Mars*, as well as the 1970s softcore thrills of *Emmanuelle*. Most still seem quite fresh.

Posing in pumps

There's some art in there, too. Many of the images are tempered with nods to dada and surrealism, those boundary-bashing art historical movements. This is particularly apparent in his controversial 1963 Mata Hari spread featuring chic models posing in pumps along the Berlin Wall, and a woman in an evening dress being escorted from the barbed wire fence by West German police. A fabulous militia-themed series from 1967 shows a woman wearing a "subtle pink Grecian tunic with matching panties" covering below an open window in which a cruise missile zooms perilously close. (The latter element is grafted in via seamless photomontage.) A year later, in British *Vogue*, Newton worked a hefty sense of irony by pairing a Lolita blonde model with Liberace, with

page 52 ▶

From British *Vogue*, June 1968.

Q&A captions. "French opulent is my period — the clothes, the interior [sic], were so flattering to the men, and the women," the pianist answers when queried about his homes.

Through Newton's lens, the concepts of flattery expand to cover unconventional definitions of womanhood. His is a universe full of statuesque, Amazonian females who seem as objectified as they do empowered and sexually predatory. While they sometimes may be clad in nothing but im-

his homes.

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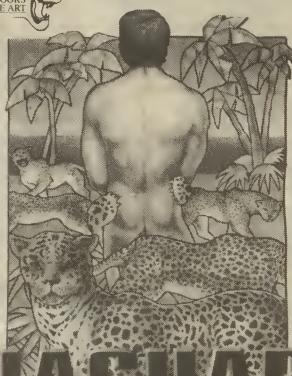
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Glamourpusses

by Tavo Amador

In *The Power of Glamour: The Women Who Defined the Magic of Stardom* (Crown, \$40), Annette Tapert analyzes the careers of eleven Hollywood stars of the twenties and thirties, focusing on their impact on women then and now. The emphasis is on style: how they dressed, how they used make-up, and the physical flaws they overcame or minimized to create the illusion of other-worldly glamour. Tapert associates glamour with its initial meaning of an attractiveness too powerful to be real, a form of sorcery or witchcraft, ultimately emanating from the woman herself.

Her choices include the obvious: Gloria Swanson, Joan Crawford, Greta Garbo, Marlene Dietrich; others remembered mainly by film buffs and septuagenarians: Norma Shearer, Kay Francis, Constance Bennett, and Dolores Del Rio; and a few who, despite their beauty, seem almost anti-glamour: Claudette Colbert, Carole Lombard, and Katharine Hepburn.

Tapert admits to considering and rejecting Bette Davis and Myrna Loy because they were neither on-screen clotheshorses nor notable for their personal style. Irene Dunne was acclaimed for her film fashions, but was seldom seen in public, and therefore rejected. (The same could be said about Garbo.) Harder to explain is the exclusion of Ginger Rogers (Joan Crawford's only real rival for glamorizing working-class women) and Loretta Young, whose clothes, on and off screen, attracted more attention than her acting or remarkable beauty.

The author is weakest in justifying the presence of Hepburn, who was not regarded as a beauty in the thirties and who, from 1935 on, could not carry a film to success without an important male co-star. Tapert argues that Hepburn's anti-glamour became a form of glamour itself, but her case is not convincing. And while many, including Marlene Dietrich, insisted that Dolores Del



Gloria Swanson

She is candid about Dietrich's bisexuality, mentions that Garbo may have had an affair with writer Mercedes D'Acosta, but is silent about Colbert's rumored romance with Dietrich, or about Del Rio's alleged lesbianism. She denies that Kay Francis was gay, but explains why people thought so (off camera she favored a butch hairstyle and tailored clothes).

The essays are laced with fascinating gossip — the account of how the boisterous Lombard handled Frederic March's unwanted sexual advances alone is worth the price of the book. So is the telling of Lombard's hosting the prestigious Mayfair Ball and her fury over Shearer's defying the dress code. (Clark Gable had to restrain her from publicly berating his frequent leading lady.) The cool way in which Constance Bennett, returning to films as Lana Turner's mother-in-law in 1965's *Madame X*, handled the younger star's appropriating a chinchilla coat and ring originally designed for her to wear, is splendid. "Honey," Bennett told producer Ross Hunter, "when I'm on screen, no one is going to look at anyone but me anyway."

Some feminists will decry this book as glorifying the superficial and perpetuating unreal standards of beauty that are harmful to women's self-esteem. True enough. But the discipline and control these women had over their images and the impact they had and, in many cases, still have is admirable. Tapert shows how Bob Mackie's stunning costumes for Cher, for example, are derived from those Jean Louis designed for Dietrich to wear in her night-club acts.

While Tapert's decision to focus on a specific era is understandable, Hollywood and glamour were linked well into the sixties. Extending the period covered to include Hedy Lamarr, Joan Fontaine, Veronica Lake, Rita Hayworth, Audrey Hepburn, and Elizabeth Taylor, among others, would have made this fascinating book even richer. ▼

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Killer Looks

Skye writing

by Linnea Due

Girl Walking Backwards by Bett Williams; St. Martin's, \$12.95

When Skye's mother discovers her daughter is a lesbian, she lectures her about polarity: "The male body has a positive energy field and the female body has a negative energy. People of the same sex have the same charge so there is no coming together..."

"People aren't refrigerator magnets," Skye tells her mother.

"Men are still so unevolved and the pain of that has created

confusion in your second chakra," her mother opines. But this is early on. Skye's mother comes up with more theories to explain her daughter's lesbianism, like Skye being sexually molested during the drugged-out parties of her parents' youth, and with cures like hypnosis and New Age workshops. If Skye takes the cure, she can go to college; if she doesn't, her mother will go mad.

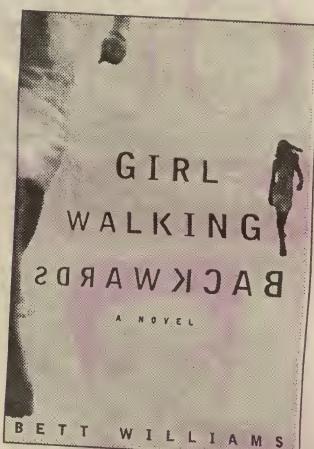
Talk about a choice — except that it's clear to Skye that her mother is already mad, which means Skye's real choice is to run her own life. She dreams of rescuing half-dead runaway girls shivering behind Dumpsters — "in

my imagination the girls never call me 'poseur' and ask for ten dollars like in real life. They're always pretty, tough on the edges, and mysterious. A therapist once told me that the runaway girl was really me, that I wanted to save myself... If everything you dream is just you, where is the world in all of it?"

Girl Walking Backwards is about finding a place in a world where parents don't parent and kids can't be kids, a world that is excruciatingly realistic. Skye os-

When she discovers Riley and Jessica going at it in a bathroom stall at a rave, her shaky house of cards explodes, which turns out to be not a bad thing.

This is Bett Williams' first novel, and she's smart enough to avoid all the pitfalls — Skye's parents are not monsters, her friends aren't saviors, and Williams doesn't



BETT WILLIAMS

Books like this can be so painful that they're hard to read, but Williams writes with humor, action, and piercing observations. She's also not above having fun with her first-person narrator.

tensibly volleys between Mom in Santa Barbara and independent filmmaker Dad in the Hollywood hills, though neither is available in any way that counts. So she plays volleyball (badly), volunteers for Planned Parenthood (horrifyingly hilarious), develops a crush on the alluring Jessica, who cuts herself with razors, lets her pal Riley go down on her while she excites him with tales of her fantasy girlfriend, and writes papers on Virginia Woolf for her Gifted-and-Talented English class.

invent quirky characters for entertainment value. Her characters' foibles and idiosyncrasies stem from sources that are all too understandable, and adults will cringe, both at Skye's childhood memories and her present encounters with self-involved grown-ups who are trying to hide or soothe their own damaged souls.

Books like this can be so painful that they're hard to read, but Williams writes with humor, action, and piercing observa-

tions. She's also not above having fun with her first-person narrator: Skye's voice is equal parts wisdom, naivete, and adolescent blunder. Williams is able to convey both the shunning of parents, who figure little on a day-to-day level, with the simultaneous longing for a parent who can be depended upon, who will show up at the hard times — and not with a charlatan in tow. Skye's journey becomes transformative; by the end of this excellent novel, she has learned that standing on her own has more to do with staying open and flexible than with developing a hard shell and an I'll-take-care-of-it attitude. If you think novels with teenage protagonists have nothing to say to you, try this one; you might not like what it says, but I guarantee you'll find it worth reading. ▼

Veteran gay politico scopes the field

by Marv. Shaw

Trailblazers by Ken Yeager; Haworth Press, \$29.95

Celebrating the electoral success of thirteen officials across the U.S., political scientist Ken Yeager in *Trailblazers* profiles each to show how they have combined personal qualities, drive, and well-chosen campaign strategies, to win in spite of the real or imagined handicaps of being openly gay and lesbian people.

Yeager, himself an elected — and re-elected — gay member of the Board of Trustees of the San Jose/Evergreen Community College District, teaches political science, with a specialty in local and state governments, at San Jose State University. He holds a Ph.D. from Stanford.

Though all thirteen profiles share the factor of having the subject of an "out" gay in a public activity, each man or woman is respected for his/her individuality, and is keynoted for that uniqueness, which characterizes the struggle. For example, lesbian Victoria Sigler's political career in Dade County, Florida is represented as a truly astonishing victory when she won a judgeship in a place where the homophobes inspired by Anita Bryant seemed to rule the polls. Similarly, José Plaza was voted a school trustee in Dallas, a city riven by racial antagonism.

Gay candidates soon found that careful study of conditions important to the average voter was crucial. Constant emphasis on non-gay issues defeated the bugaboo of single-issue candidacy that can defeat some gay would-be officeholders. San Diego Councilwoman Christine Kehoe found out that even potholes can be interesting.

Even some intimidating personal matters that would ordinarily be assumed defeating can be overcome, as New York Councilman Tom Duane found when his having AIDS became a factor in his race. As Yeager characterizes him, he is "living, fighting, and governing with HIV."

In "Taking Destiny into Their



Ken Yeager

Own Hands," Yeager chronicles the development of West Hollywood as a city government in which gays have a strong hand in the development of all aspects of city life. It is a highly encouraging depiction of how gays and straights can work closely together.

It would seem a natural that such a book would have similar treatments for such nationally well-known politicians as Representatives Barney Frank and Gerry Studds of Massachusetts, but though these two gay men are mentioned in some pertinent sections, Yeager does not give them the full profile he gives the lesser-known gay men and lesbians. The apparent reason seems to be that the relatively unknown gay people he does profile do more to prove that succeeding at being gay and politically dedicated are not mutually antagonistic.

As a matter of fact, though there are only 124 out gay men and lesbians out of 497,155 elected officials in the U.S., the success of that number appears to be both a harbinger and a model for attainment of public office by many more. ▼

Ken Yeager will be reading from *Trailblazers* on Monday, January 25, 7:30 p.m. at A Different Light Bookstore, 489 Castro.



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OUT & ABOUT

Calendare

by Mark Mardon



David Bowie

Bowie mania

Kate Howser, bassist for local drama-rock band **See Jane Run**, is obsessed with David Bowie. She has been since she was a kid, in part because her birthday and his happen to fall on the same day, January 8. Every year she has baked a cake in his honor. But she long dreamed of doing something more glamorous: throwing a big party at which a bunch of bands dress up in gender-bending finery and play Bowie songs all night.

With glam rock suddenly making a comeback, thanks in part to the glittery movie *Velvet Goldmine*, the time for such a party seemed ripe, so Howser and her bandmates, Nicole Katler and Jennifer Daunt, called up a bunch of their friends in other bands and asked them to take part in a Bowie Birthday Bash, marking the gracefully aging glamster's 52nd year on Earth.

"We wanted bands that were obviously influenced by Bowie, or ones we knew would do a good job covering his songs," says Howser.

The most obvious choice to play the event, covering Bowie songs and rendering a few of their own, is the city's ultimate glam-rock band, **Blue Period**, headed by flamboyant gender-morph vocalist/songwriter Adrian Roberts. The band's latest CD, *Product*, is rife with Bowie influences, and if their recent high-energy show at the Bottom of the Hill is any indication, **Blue Period** is likely to tear up the house with their dazzling musicianship, outrageous costumes, and rousing sound.

From Sacramento comes **Sex66**, a group Howser calls "the most energetic band I've ever seen, kind of Stonesy and Bowiesque." Yet plenty more home-grown talent will be offered, including **100 Watt Smile**, a group with Breeders influence and demon violins, **JoJo**, a four-piece pop band with a strong local following, and **Capsule**, a pop band known for its good harmonies. Rounding out the line-up are **Red Planet**, with a "twangy sweat-rock" sound, and **The Eric McFadden Experience**, perhaps the most experimental of the lot.

Alas, Howser herself will be unable to play the gig she helped to organize. While snowboarding recently, she broke her wrist and can't hold the bass. Hopefully, despite her cast, she'll be able to cut the cake. ▼

Bowie Birthday Bash takes place Saturday, January 9 (one day after Bowie's actual birthday), at **Slims**, 333 11th St. \$7 cover. Info: 522-0333.



April Garter

Fri

Lumiere Theatre

First Run Features presents *Like It Is*, directed by Paul Oremland, set against the backdrop of London's happening club scene. Screen newcomer Steve Bell plays a 21-year-old northern lad making cash from illegal bare-knuckle fights (Bell reportedly is the featherweight boxing champ of the UK), and Ian Rose plays a young, openly gay Soho music executive. The Who's Roger Daltrey plays an amoral businessman with a taste for young flesh. Daily thru 1/14 at 2:45, 5, 7:30, & 9:30pm. 1572 California St. (at Polk). 352-0810.

Castro Cinema

Turbulent Arts presents *Uncut*, the latest feature film by Canadian director John Greyson (*Lillies; Zero Patience*). Starring Matthew Ferguson (*Lillies; The English Patient*), Michael Achtman, and Damon D'Olivera. Set in Ottawa in 1979, the film tells the story of three gay men named Peter: one is a typist who works Trudeau; another is a grad student perplexed by circumcision; the other is a Jackson Five fan who wants to break into broadcast. They meet; they make love; they make art; they get busted. 7pm & 9:15pm daily thru 1/14. (also 2pm & 4:30pm Sat., Sun., & Wed.). 621-6120.

Victoria Theater

San Francisco IndieFest. Tonight: "Bongwears," by director Richard Sears, pro-

duced by Alessandro Uxelli (both in attendance at screening). Likable but lazy drug dealer David is enamored of mega-egoist Serena. Her ambition and his lack of motivation come to a head during a police raid at a party held by the motherly couple Robert and Tony. Throw in an acid trip in the merry woods of Oregon. \$10. 10pm. 2961 16th St. (at Capp). Tix: 421-7115. Info: 289-6896.

Covered

Wagon Saloon

CD release show for 6'7" gay Christian country-punk performance artist Glen Meadmore's "Hot Horny & Born Again" album (Vertivora Records). Songs include "Glory Hole," "Sassy," and "Blow You—>" Also appearing: dyke band Fabulous Disaster. \$5 cover. 10pm. 917 Folsom St. 974-1585.

The Lab

Opening reception for "The Secret Language of Girls," a group exhibition about what it means to be a girl. Featuring the work of Leona Christie, Carolyn Cooley, Phoebe Goeckner, Donna Har, Dale Hoyt, Zoey Kroll, Isis Rodriguez, and Angela Wyman. Free. 6-9pm. 2948 16th St. (at Capp). 864-8855.

Space 743

Opening reception for "3 Generations," an exhibit of work by 3 gay artists, Caldwell Brewer, Robert Brok, and Shawn Sprague, whose lives span several generations. Their work influences each other, and they share an ongoing interest in the human figure, ignoring art world trends. Free. 6-8pm. 743

Harrison St. (btwn. 3rd & 4th). 777-9080.

S.F. Camerawork

Opening reception for "The Sacred Heart: Eternity or What?" Featuring the work of two photographers who explore biological landscapes. Max Aguilera-Hellwig peers into the interior of the human body with his camera, making his images during invasive surgery. Hiro Yamagata makes mural-size photographs of single-cell organisms that he creates in his studio through simple chemical reactions. Free. 5:30-8pm. Exhibit runs thru 1/30. 115 Natoma St. 764-1001. Website: www.sfcamerawork.org.

SomArts Gallery

Opening reception for "THEM: An Exhibition of Artists, Scientists & Designers Concerned with the Entomological Universe." Curated by Gary Brewer. A multi-disciplinary exhibition integrating contributions from the



Marc Geller

Brown-Star plays at the Paradise Lounge (see Sunday) and the Bottom of the Hill (see Thursday).

Exploratorium the Academy of Sciences, the S.F. Zoo, and the work of local and national artists and scientists.

"THEM" explores the rich and compelling subject matter of the insect world in relation to science, art, and design. (Later this month, in conjunction with the exhibit, S.F. Cinematheque will present two evenings of insect related films. Watch this space for details.) Free. 5-8pm. 934 Brannan St. 552-2131.

Southern Exposure

Opening reception for three solo exhibitions: "Always in a Hurry. Never Gets Lost," an installation by Miriam Dym; "Incomplete Metamorphosis," sculpture by Joyce Hsu; and "Lots and Procedure," sculpture by Robert Kalka. Free. 6-8pm. 401 Alabama St. (at 17th). 863-2141.

Shelton Theatre

Shelly Mitchell performs excerpts from "Orgasmic Adult Escapes from the Zoo," a comedy by Dario Fo and Franca Rame. Directed by Cris Cassell and Matthew Shelton Ross. \$18 (\$12 students/seniors). 8pm. 533 Sutter St. Tix: 389-6429.

Jon Sims Center

As part of its regular Friday night showcasing of works in progress by artists in residence, AIRspace presents an evening of entertainment by members of The Gay Asian Pacific Alliance. \$5-\$10 sliding. 8:30pm. 1519 Mission St. (near South Van Ness). 554-0402.

Sat

Mission Cultural Center

Opening reception for "Active Edge," an exhibit exploring lesbian identity, race, and activism, presented by Lesbians in the Visual Arts. Featuring works by 50 artists, spanning all media. Free (donations accepted) 2-5pm. 2869 Mission St. (btwn. 24th & 25th). Wheelchair accessible. Info: 788-6118.

ODC Theater

Composer, songwriter, multi-instrumentalist, father, and openly bisexual Mark Devon celebrates the release of his CD "Downstairs Karaoke" (Wiggle Biscuit Records) in a performance featuring Myles Boisen (Club Foot Orchestra/Splatter Trio) on guitar, Nils Frykdahl (Idiot Flesh/Charming Hostess) on vocals and flute, Jon Birdsong (Beck/Victoria Williams/Kaleidophone) on cornet and tuba, David Cooper (Eskimo/Beth Lisick Ordeal) on marimba, Janya Chernoff (Giant Ant Farm/Mumble & Peg) on percussion, Dr. Bill on tuba, trombone, and clarinet, Tarik Ragab (E is for Elephant/Playtonics) on bass fiddle and vocals, and Dawn McCarthy on vocals and percussion. Also performing will be The Deke and Mark Show, Peter Whitehead, Down

Williams/Kaleidophone) on cornet and tuba, David Cooper (Eskimo/Beth Lisick Ordeal) on marimba, Janya Chernoff (Giant Ant Farm/Mumble & Peg) on percussion, Dr. Bill on tuba, trombone, and clarinet, Tarik Ragab (E is for Elephant/Playtonics) on bass fiddle and vocals, and Dawn McCarthy on vocals and percussion.

Also performing will be The Deke and Mark Show, Peter Whitehead, Down

River, The Two Dimensions, and Matthew Perifano. \$5 (cheap!). 8pm. ODC Theater, 3153 17th St. (at Shotwell). Reservations: 863-9834.

SomArts Gallery

11th annual "Digital Be-In," featuring the launch of the Drug Peace Campaign. With live musical acts and "techno-organic vibrations," including The Venians, plus Joie Favier, Craig Russo, Arc Angel Gabe Real, and others, with an Ambient Salon and Psychedelic Trance Cube. Visuals by Dr. Paradise and Multimind Meltdown. Also a "Human Frontier" exhibition of art, technology, and transformational ideas. Sponsored by Mind Books, Drug Policy Foundation, NORML, California Institute of Integral Studies, Zavtore magazine, and others. \$15 advance; \$20 door. All ages. 929 Brannan St. Hotline: 777-9199. Tix at BASS outlets, Distractions (1552 Haight St.), and Cosmic Disc (1754 Polk St.).

Sun

Maritime Museum

"Bathhouse by the Bay," a guided tour of the Aquatic Park Bathhouse, one of San Francisco's hidden architectural gems, built in 1939 in streamline moderne style. The structure contains Works Project Administration-sponsored artwork, including murals by Hilaire Hiler. Free. 3-3:45pm. S.F. Maritime National Historical Park. Meet at the museum at the foot of Polk Street. Info: 556-3002.

St. Francis Church

Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG) hosts Dr. Steven Tierney, executive director of Health Initiatives for Youth. He'll speak on his agency's latest program, "Dimensions: Health Services for Queer and Questioning Youth," a drop-in clinic every Thursday evening. Free. PFLAG support group meets 2-3pm (all welcome); program takes place 3-4pm. 152 Church St. (near Market). 921-8850.

Paradise Lounge

Three bands perform, including local queer favorites Brown-Star. Plus Giraffe Had a Voice and Get Go. 9pm-2am. 1515 Folsom. \$4.

Mon

Victoria Theatre

San Francisco Lyric Opera presents "Das Rheingold." \$20. Also on 1/16, 18, & 21. 2961 16th St. (at Capp). Tix/info: (415) 921-7410 or (650) 869-1899; also through BASS.

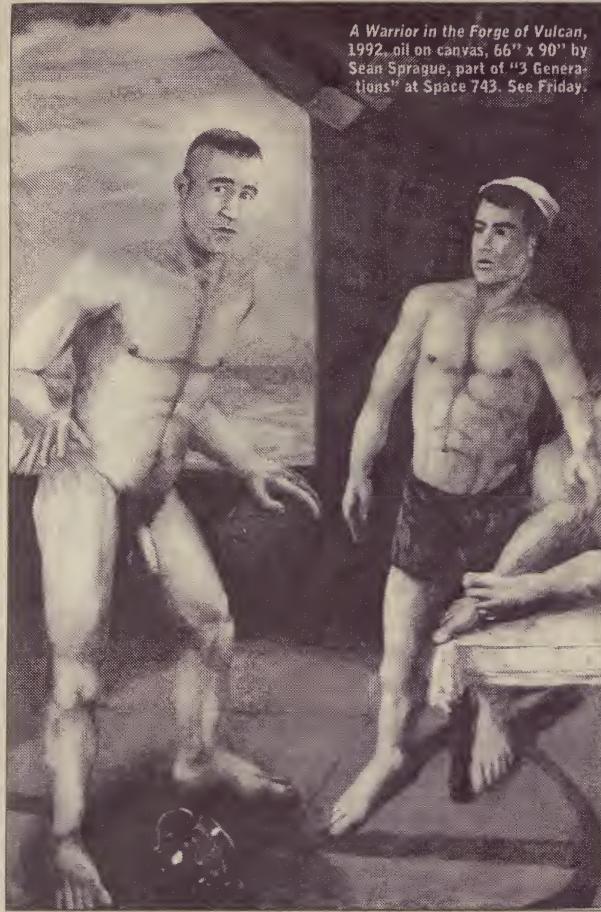
Tue

Congregation Sha'ar Zahav

Open Circle of the American Jewish Committee presents "The Jewish Influence on 20th Century American Architecture," featuring Stanley Saltowitz, professor of architecture at U.C. Berkeley. \$5 members; \$15 non-members. 7pm reception; 7:30-9pm program. 290 Dolores St. (at 16th). RSVP: 777-3820 or ajc@compuserve.com.

Eureka Theater

Preview of "Let My Enemy Live Long," written and performed by Tanya Shaffer, with live African music by Baba Duru Demetrios. Directed by Amy Mueller. The solo



A Warrior in the Forge of Vulcan, 1992, oil on canvas, 66" x 90", by Sean Sprague, part of "3 Generations" at Space 743. See Friday.

piece charts the true story of Shaffer's journey up Africa's Niger River to the legendary city of Timbuktu. \$12 Wed.-Thurs.; \$16 Fri.-Sat.-Sun. Regular run begins 1/13. 215 Jackson St. (btwn. Front & Battery; formerly the Gateway Cinema). Reservations: 788-SHOW.

Footloose @ Venue 9
Women's Work presents four offerings: E. Azzura performs "Simone Alone," a piece inspired by George Bataille's gorgeous, erotic *Story of the Eye*. Choreographer Susan Donham stages "Songs of Loss and Longing," a dance theater quintet exploring the mourning process, inspired by personal stories from the performers. Jacqueline Mam dances the solo, "Fa-mu-lan." And Diane Shields of SQUAD, a local dance company, delivers a monologue, through text and movement, about enduring some extremely horrific dates. \$6-\$10 sliding. 8pm. 252 Ninth St. (btwn. Folsom & Howard). 289-2000.

Yoshi's, Oakland
Bay Area eclectic/electronic group Eighty Mile Beach starts off 1999 with music from their debut CD, "In-clement Weather" (Om Records). Featured are Beth Custer and Christian Jones. As a veteran clarinetist who spent 13 years with Club Foot

Orchestra, Custer contributed to silent-film scores for such classics as Fritz Lang's "Metropolis" and F.W. Murnau's "Nosferatu." She has also recorded with her other group, Trance Mission. Jones began as a hip-hop DJ, then moved on to guitar, bass, samplers and studio engineering and production, working with such masters as Bill Frisell and Charlie Hunter. \$8. Doors open 6pm; show starts 8pm. 510 Embarcadero West, Jack London Square, Oakland. Tix: (510) 238-9200.

Wed
13

Yerba Buena Center
Frameline presents the groundbreaking film *Before Stonewall* (1986, 87 min., 16mm), directed by Greta Schiller, Robert Rosenberg, and John Scagliotti. The documentary maps the history of homosexual American. Narrated by Rita Mae Brown. Preceded by Charles Lofton's *O Happy Day* (1996, 6 min., video), which imagines the early days of gay liberation for black gay men. \$7 (\$6 students/seniors). 8pm. Screening Room, Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, 701 Mission St. Info./Tix: 978-ARTS.



Michael Lowe is one of 22 over-40 dancers in New Shoes, Old Souls at Cowell Theater. See Wednesday.

New Conservatory Theatre Center

Preview: "The Lisbon Traviata" by Terrence McNally, directed by Arturo Catricala. The plot veers from high comedy to stark tragedy as the play follows the troubled course of a gay relationship, using obsession with grand opera as a metaphor under-scoring larger-than-life passions. \$12. 8pm. Previews run thru 1/22; regular run is 1/23-3/6. 25 Van Ness Ave., Lower Lobby. Tix/info: 861-8972.

Cowell Theater

New Shoes, Old Souls, a dance company founded in 1993 by Linda Rawlings in order to sustain and celebrate the knowledge of older dancers (those over 40), presents five world dance premieres, including a new work directed by Mark Morris. Also featured are works by Bay Area choreographers Carlos Carvaljal, Cecilia Marta, Priscilla Regaldo, and Michael Smuin. \$20 & \$25. 8pm. Thur 1/23. Fort Mason, Buchanan St. & Marina Blvd. Tix: Fort Mason Center Box Office; 441-3687.

Magic Theatre

Preview: World premiere of Neena Beber's "A Common Vision," a romantic comedy in which Cupid slings arrows in all the wrong directions, causing six restless characters to collide over love, death, faith, and flying saucers. Directed by Mary Coleman.

\$18-\$32. 8pm. Previews run thru 1/16; regular run opens 1/19. Bldg. D, Ft. Mason Center, Marina Blvd. at Buchanan. 441-8822.

The Plush Room

Extended engagement: Wesla Whitfield performs "This Can't Be Love," with the lyrics of Lorenz Hart and the music of Richard Rogers. With Mike Greensill on piano, Ken Miller on Bass, \$20 (Wed., Thur., Sun.; \$25 Fri. & Sat.). Tix: 940 Sutter St. 885-2800.

Thu

Intersection for the Arts

Members of the Joe Goode Performance Group, plus four actors from U.C. San Diego, perform "Hapless," a new segment of the "Side-Effects Series," in which they "examine the paradoxical character of the Fool," a sly, androgynous character with a gift for canny insight. Goode's synthesis of dance and theater combined text, gesture, and humor with high-energy movement. \$10-\$15 sliding. 8pm. Thru 1/24. 446 Valencia. 626-3311.

New Langton Arts

Opening reception for "In Your Face," curated by Robert Harshorn Shimshak. An exhibition of new portraiture in painting and photography by artists from Canada, England, Finland, China, and the U.S. Tending toward the bizarre, funny, and psychological, these new works share roots in pop art and photorealism, as well as 20th century European Expressionist portraiture. Exhibit runs thru 3/6. Free. 6-8pm. 1246 Folom St. (btwn. 8th & 9th). 626-5416.

Place Pigalle

Opening reception for "The Earth is Flat," a two-person art show featuring the paintings of Rebekah Potter and Kim Lindgren. Potter's work deals with "the visual pleasures" of urban landscapes, and Lindgren, a Denmark native, reflects on his fascination with space (he always dreamed of being an astronaut). Free. 7-10pm. 520 Hayes St. 552-2671.

Footloose @ Venue 9

"Alabama Bound," on the back roads with some edgy Southern women, a solo performance with slides and photo exhibition. Featuring Charlotte Higgins recounting a ride through the dusty back roads of her native Alabama, meeting the flawed but likable women who live there. \$10. 8pm. Thru 1/23. 252 Ninth St. 626-2169.

Bottom of the Hill

Two local bands play: Baby Snufkin and Brown-Star. 9pm-2am. 1235 17th St.

The Booksmith

Talk and book signing by composer and instrument builder Lou Harrison, still going strong at 81. His involvement with pacifism and his concern for personal freedom are evident in his later works, notably the puppet opera *Young Caesar*, about an early homosexual love affair of Julius Caesar's. Harrison will be joined by flutist Leta Miller and ethnomusicologist Fredric Lieberman, co-authors of the recently published *Lou Harrison: Composing a World*. Free. 7pm. 1644 Haight St. 863-8688.

WANNA SUBMIT?

Send your calendar event listings to:

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Year of the Hare

by Mister Marcus

It's only the first week in January, yet anticipation of social gatherings runs rampant throughout the community.

First off, next month on the Chinese Lunar Calendar begins year 4697, the Year of the Hare. If you're into that sort of thing, check out the characteristics of rabbit people, and this could be your year for success with that certain person.

Here on the home front, one of our longest-running fund-raising efforts is about to launch into its 16th year. I'm talking about the bare-chest calendar, billed this year as the Millennium Calendar, which has always been a sterling tool to raise money for the AIDS Emergency Fund. The contests to become calendar men for the year 2000 begin tonight, Thursday, January 7, at 2130 in a new location, the Powerhouse.

The judges tonight are Mr. Northern California Drummer Ray Tilton, Mr. December 1999 Glennon Sutter and from, from Adelaide, Australia (and a former calendar man himself), Kym Whittington. It should be an interesting night. Now that SMMILE has taken over the project, and with the generous sponsorship of Miller Brewing, it is quite likely that the 2000 calendar will be in color.

Mr. February 2000 will be chosen in two weeks, Thursday, January 21. The judges for this one are former Ms SF Leather Queen Cougar, former IML Lenny Broberg and that happily married Jon Ayers (aka Frank Parker - no relation to Al).

Last Sunday, January 3, the final half dozen 1999 bare-chest calendar winners were auctioned off for dinner dates by Lenny Broberg at the Eagle beer bust. Great weather contributed to a big turnout, and also auctioned or raffled off were dinner dates to various eateries, videos, stuffed animals and other surprises. Stompers came though with another pair of Chippewas which were won by CJ, formerly of the Centaur MC.

Plenty of men volunteered to pour beer, and the crowd was generous to the tune of almost \$4,000 for the AIDS Emergency Fund. It was a great day for the charity! To top it all off, the San Francisco 49ers proved that our cheese is better than Wisconsin's and broke the losing streak to Green Bay! Much jubilation could be heard all around the town. The Atlanta Falcons are next! Do I smell Super Bowl in the air?

Almost everyone scheduled to

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Mister Marcus

More than \$4,000 was raised for the AIDS Emergency Fund on Sunday, Jan. 3 at the Eagle by auctioning off the 1999 calendar men for dinner dates, including Ben Greenwell (left) and Paul Tucci.

attend the Centaur MC's big Leather Weekend 1999 in Washington, DC during the weekend of January 15-18 is hoping good weather will prevail. The nation's first big leather gathering of the year always tops everyone's priority list, and the \$69 price tag for the entire weekend is one of the best leather weekend bargains to be found. Tickets are almost sold out, so if you're going you can charge to your plastic by calling 1-800-494-TIXS. No checks will be accepted after January 8.

Tony Mills, who won the contest last year, and then went on to win the IML title in Chicago in May, will be stepping down. Given the dynamic speeches he has delivered at other events, we expect this one will be another classic. If you want to attend the contest only on Sunday, January 17, those tickets are \$25, available at the door. Quite a large contingent from San Francisco will be there.

Dirty dish

The partying on New Year's Eve was at fever pitch all over our campus. Big crowds turned out at the fabulous Pleasuredome, and Jito Garcia's Aftershock party was similarly well attended. Andy Rose held his annual New Year's Day party, and former IML Joe Gallagher and his other half, Joel Geraci, hosted an open house in their new digs.

It is indeed inspiring to witness the success of Mr. Gallagher integrating himself into this community after leaving New York, "the city that eats its own." Joe has become a member of the SMMILE board of directors and serves on the Mr. SF Leather '99 committee, proving that his leadership is definitely recognized,

next page ►



International Drummer Boy Ryan Goldner (kneeling) with his daddy Scott Reikofski, Mr. Pennsylvania Drummer, held their commitment ceremony on Sat., Jan. 2 at the Philadelphians MC in-town run.

PORN

Research tools

Bijou porn catalog on CD-ROM

by John F. Karr

If you're a porn dog, with a zest to catalog, chronicle and compare porn that sometimes supersedes the actual need to watch it, you already know how meager the aids to your endeavors are. Fanzines are fine for photos of your faves, but scanty on information beyond throbbing press releases. The monthly *Manshots* magazine provides the most amount of in-depth star and director interviews, plus reviews of new and classic material, but unless you run your home like a library, it's hardly comprehensive. There are two sizable video catalogs, the National Shopper's Gay Porn Video Directory and The Adam Gay Video Directory. I've never seen the former in a store, and don't know from whom or where the National Shoppers spring, but the paste-up graphic it employs in The Adam Gay Guide to solicit mail orders for a promised 2,300-review catalogue is little incentive to ownership. The popular Adam Guide has a yearly edition that includes 1,000 capsule reviews. It's glossy and crammed with full color pics, but it's trendy, with a focus on the recent and with only minimal cross-indexing.

These are the reasons why, if you're a porn dog, you're probably already aware of the giant Bijou Video Catalog. Bijou is the country's single largest distributor



of porn videos, representing a sizable number of video producers, and with a loyalty to historical and period material. All of this makes their catalog as invaluable as it is unwieldy. That's why those of us who turn to it repeatedly—dithering over a star or a director's videography, or feverishly finding which flicks will fan the flames of our most fervently indulged fetish—are glad that a season or two ago, Bijou undertook to put the massive thing on CD-ROM. That proved a mixed blessing—like most new applications of computer technology, it had a few bugs. Now Bijou has issued its Second Generation CD-ROM Catalog (\$38.45 postpaid; 1-800-932-7111). It's blissfully free of kinks (as far as I can tell), easy to access, and as deserving of the company's subtitle, *The Encyclopedia of Gay Video*, as any catalog currently available.

The Second Generation Bijou Video CD-ROM Catalog includes 4,500 video reviews, with 2,500 of

them photo-illustrated (and enlargable with a click). It has an easy-to-use index of 100 chapters, guiding you to directors and companies, ranging from the new (Falcon, Hot House) to the archival (Peter de Rome, Brentwood). There's a valuable search function that quickly pinpoints the videographies of every star and director you can think of, before it quickly calls up the titles and reviews concerned. And there's an invaluable Subject directory, which ranges from Barber Chairs and Ben-wa Balls, through Inflatable or Intellectual (you'd be surprised how many porn videos encourage an academic response), and on, to Real Men and Redheads (which is not to say that the latter are excluded from being the former, but are merely graced with a listing of their own).

Two endearing facets of the Bijou CD-ROM Catalog, which is compatible with both Mac and Windows platforms, are its typos, lovingly carried over from the printed version of the catalog, and the personal quality of its reviews. Though unsigned, they display an aficionado's enthusiastic love of the medium, frequently pointing out delectable moments, biographical tidbits, and achievements in the art.

The Bijou Video CD-ROM Catalog's only limitation is that it doesn't represent every company producing porn. Still, it is the most comprehensive research tool currently available on its subject. ▶

Mister Marcus

◀ previous page

complete with tuxedoes, fake mustaches and beards. Captain of the Philadelphians MC, John Loesch (in a flawless aqua gown), was the maid of honor, while the president of the Potomac MC was the flower girl. It all sounds very campy to me, but lest we forget the seriousness of the commitment ceremony, know that Ryan and Scott are much loved and respected all along the entire Atlantic seaboard. I can't wait to see

photos of Vern Stewart in a veil!

The Pantheon of Leather Awards are scheduled for February 7 in New Orleans, and a hefty list of nominees are on the docket, including quite a few San Francisco Bay area people. I don't have the complete list yet, but good luck to all the nominees in the voting. As you may know, nominations opened in November. The voting for the awards is done by last year's winners.

News To Me Dept.

Did you know there is an International Rubber Flag that has

been in existence since 1994? According to the latest issue of *Vulcan America* magazine, the banner was designed by Peter Tolos and Scott Moats and was created as a means of identifying like-minded men reflecting the sensory, sensual and mental passion for rubber. It is black with a chevron in red and yellow, each color signifying aspects of the rubber lifestyle. It is quite handsome and unique. I'll try to have a photo for you soon.

Lots of fun things headed your way in the coming weeks and months, so stay tuned for further developments. ▶

E V E N T U R E S I N L E A T H E R

Thursday, January 7

Inaugural of the 2000 Bare Chest Contest looks for Mr. January 2000. Win \$100, a spot on this landmark 16th edition, and do your bit for the AIDS Emergency Fund. The action starts at 2130. Be there!

Big Basket contest at The Edge with Danny Williams emceeing, beer bust, shenanigans by the Old Bag, and all ruled over by that cute Eric Weinman.

Saturday, January 9

Annual meeting and election of officers of the Men of Discipline in Washington, D.C., plus planning for their 4th anniversary during MAL.

Tuesday, January 12

M.A.S.T. (Masters and slaves Together) social gathering, @ 1930, upstairs at the Lone Star Saloon. Subject: Having Multiple Partners in a M/S Relationship."

Wednesday, January 13

Be the first to get wet at 933 Harrison for the first Wet Wednesday. You know the rules. Call 863-HEAD if you're dry.

Weekend, January 15-18

Mid-Atlantic Leather weekend hosted by the Centaur MC in Washington, DC. All the usual suspects

will be there, including Int'l. Mr. Drummer Hervé Bernard and all the new title holders from around the country.

Portland Uniform Weekend, hosted by *In Uniform* magazine and the AUA. Meet and greet on Friday, January 16; Officer's Dress mess Uniform Dinner, uniform party and a uniform buffet brunch on Sunday. Email UniformMag@aol.com.

Saturday, January 16

Mr. Daddy's Bear contest at Daddy's, @ 1900. Winner will represent that bar at the International Mr. Bear contest next month.

Bears of SF beer bust @ the Lone Star Saloon, 1500-1900, for only \$7, to benefit International Bear Rendezvous (IBR) scholarship fund.

Men of Discipline, DC chapter celebrate their 4th anniversary at the DC Eagle with a uniform night, including St. Sebastian temporary piercing & bonding scene.

Sunday, January 17

Mr. Mid-Atlantic Leather contest at Tracks in Washington, DC, hosted by the Centaur MC. Contest only tickets for \$25 available at the door.

Wednesday, January 20

Get out those skivvies for the 1st Underwear Buddies party of the year at 933 Harrison. Clothes check mandatory. Call 863-HEAD for more info.

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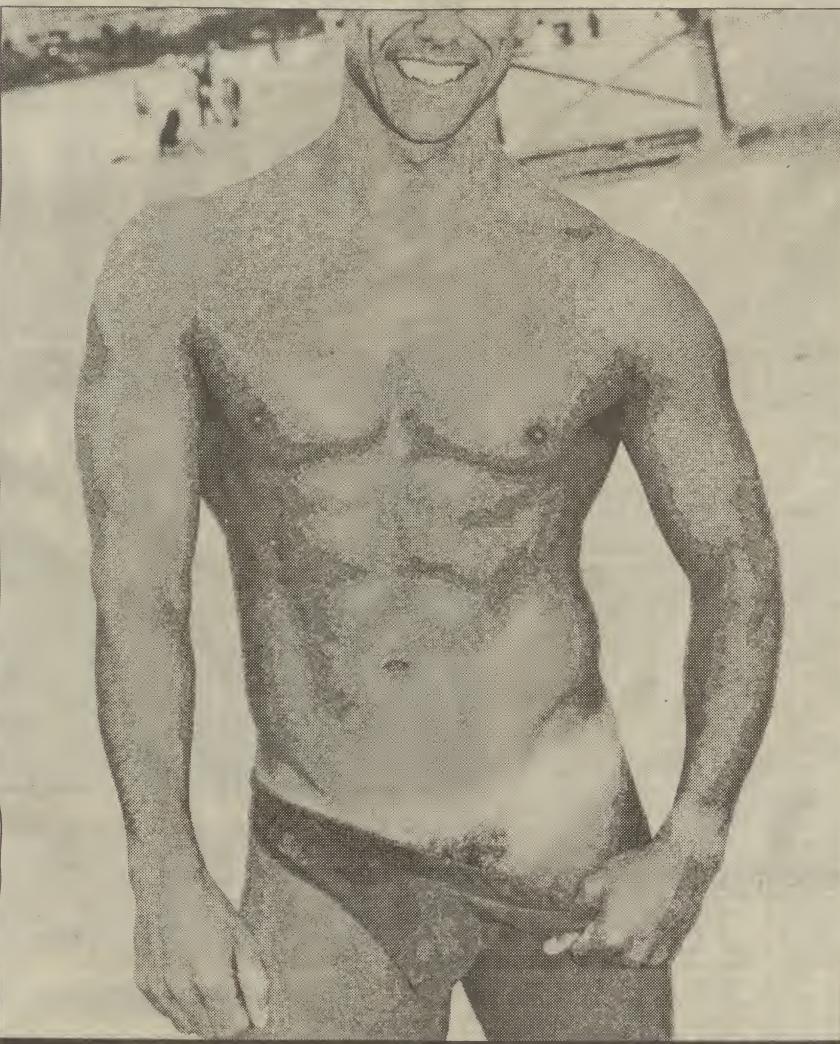
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PARTING GLANCES

Terry AirCanada Thanksgiving

We spoke in flight to Toronto, U: Handsome dressed in black, short hair & glasses. Me: Short br hair, green eyes, bright smile. Call to talk

Highly recommended. **5401**

N' Touch Wed 12/2 midnight Blue

You: Handsome white guy w/yellow

rain coat. Me: Asian w/black jeans

and blue V-neck shirt. Too shy to talk

to you. Second chance? **5401**

Dame Edna Wed 12/2 **2/12/1999**

You: Dark good looks, front row. Me:

GWM, lit. brown/green eyes. Eyes met

in bar when friend went for drink.

You said hello at end of show. **Call?**

5503

Sat 12/5 You Catered A Small

Party in the Oakland hills. Me:

shaved head, goatee. Wanted to give

you my # but chickened out. Would

love the chance to know you. Interest-

ed? **5500**

Roger? 201 Mission 13th flr.

you introduced yourself to him.

12/3. I was delivery person. I was

training new person. Elevator came,

you left. Hopefully not for long.

Lunch on 28th flr? or just coffee?

5501

Neil Friday Night 10/30/98

You touched me in such an incredible

sensual way, with passionate rhythm

felt by few. Too good to let slip

away. When I see you again, we will

smile. **Troy. 5600**

You're Absolutely Gorgeous!!!

That's what I told you as I left "The Cafe" on sat 12/5. Wish I'd asked for your #. You take my breath away!

Can we meet? **5502**

#42 Thurs 12/10 10am

You sat next to me on bus. You got my attention. I got off at Clay, would like to meet you. **5504**

Cost Plus, Eve of Nov 18

You: silver fox, baseball cap brown leather jacket, black spandex shorts, brown sandals; left in gold Lincoln. Me: tall, brown hair/goatee, Khaki pants/shirt. Let's meet. Please call. **5505**

12/4 Will- Grand Hyatt

I picked you up and gave you a ride home. My phone rang and interrupted us. My situation has changed. Give me a call! **5506**

Club Universe 12/12

You: Blue shirt, long zipper. Me: baseball cap, nipple rings. Wanted to talk but had to go. Please call. **5507**

You Floored me at Elroys 12/3

You, hunky, bearded blond w/bearded friend. Me, mid 30s, buzz cut, goatee, untucked flannel shirt, caught your eye. **5402**

Mark

We met Wednesday 12/9. Your # went through the wash. Please leave it at the mailbox. **Tony. 5508**

Bobbie SF Bear Dad Needs To

Talk w/you. You left ph#, but it was incomplete. Said you were bl/b1/b6, spiritual. Call & I will complete #, speak slowly. **5602**

Pine Taylor Market Mon. 12/14

We exchanged glances on Pine St. around 9:30pm, you went into Market but I couldn't wait. I'm Asian male in grey/black sweats. Care to talk? **5601**

Mike @ Steambom Mon 12/14/98

You-Black Baseball cap -Room 252. Me-Big thick dick, big balls. I fucked your ass royally, you thought it was great. Me too. I want more, lots more. **Dean. 5603**

Most Beautiful Asian Girl

Saw you and your girlfriend in colors at Pier 10 on 8/29. My friends saw you in club Q on 12/14. Been alone lately? Next Q find you around 12am. **5604**

Big Dick Sling Boy @ Eros

You were a chain and nothing else. I

wore a condom and together we put on a show which ended in your gener-

ous eruption! Want more? I do! **5401**

Embarcadero Game Gallery 12/16

I wrapped the gifts you bought, while talking about X-mas shopping and your 2 brothers. You smiled and left shaking my hand. Want to meet sometime? **5701**

225 Bush Delivery Guy

You: Dropping off packages 12/23. Me: Leaving from work for the day. Exchanged glances, regret not introducing myself. Give me a chance to do that now. Call me. **5702**

Cycle Gear 12/21 Woof!!!!!!

We were both shopping for gloves. You took off too soon. Would like to have talked to you. **Joe. 5703**

Sex only

GBM, 47, 5'10", 220, ch 49", arms 37", legs 29", thighs 33" and calves 17 1/2". Seeks 18-25 for safe sex. You clean hygiene and HIV-, swollen nipples and round ass. **5704**

Blow Buddies Friday 12/18

Dark hair, musc., bottom, getting rimmed. Me Bl/b1/b6, top, big dick. 3 shared booth wanted to be in a bed. Looked to give #. I want to do it right. **5705**

SEEKING RELATIONSHIP

Do You Have an Easy/Relaxed

Lifestyle, one that's not hurried. I'm Asian 38yo, HIV-, lite smoker ND/Alcohol. If you're 40-50W that's non-materialistic & have a good hear, you may be the man for me. **5404**

50ish Man Seeks 40ish Same

I'm HIV-, tall, thin, successful, and have a real life I'd like to share. Career potential. **5405**

Asian Top Seeking GWM Bottom

Asian, 5'7", 130#, slender, nice dick, seeking GWM, w/nice body but not thin, muscular guy with facial hair A+. **5406**

Sonoma County Skiing Sex Buddy

GWM 50, 6'1", 180#, HIV+, NS, ND, musc, goatee, shaved head, healthy, athletic. ISO same in masculine GWM for dating & LTR. You: 35-45, 5'10", fit. **5423**

Short Term/ Long Term

ISO Wm, Latino, or Asian with good height/weight proportion, disease free for mutually satisfying oral encounters. **5609**

Handsome Muscular Italian

GWM, 38, 6'2", 185lbs, into fitness, travel, romance & quiet times, seeking another HIV Negative extremely well-hung man for monogamous relationship. **5716**

GLM HIV+ Seeks GWM

Me: 21/21, NS, ND, 41, 5'4", 145#, Brigr, cute, cuddly, romantic, considerate, professional, healthy, athletic. ISO same in masculine GWM for dating & LTR. You: 35-45, 5'10", fit. **5423**

Tricks Are For Kids

Latino Male 32, 5'8" 210 stocky build looking to meet guys for friendship and hopefully more. You be under 40 HIV-. Ready for a boyfriend. **5409**

Top Daddy Needed

By submissive bottom boy, 39, WM, 5'7", 140, mustache, goatee, tattoos, and in shape. Dad should be older and larger than boy. **5410**

Seeking Smooth Handsome Asian

Very attractive 42yo cauc, muscular, honest caring. Looking for an athletic, smooth Asian in GWM or E. Bay. Pls be sincere. **5411**

Attractive Latino

Goodlooking Latino 33yo, dark hair, br eyes, goatee like to go to movies, dinner, hiking, tennis, travel, looking for GWM between 25-37 for friendship or more. Just call. **5412**

Wanna Wrestle?

25yo, Blond/blue, masculine midwest stud, 5'10", 175lbs, 7"cut, Libertarian, finance professional, muscular. You must be: under 35, HIV+, white, and built. Oif! **5413**

Goodlooking Straight Type

Genuine, free-spirited GWM 44, 6'1", 200. Not into Gay life, looking for romance and love with similar, goodlooking, down-to-earth, fun loving, masculine warm hearted guy. **5414**

Attractive Latino

Good looking 33yo, dark hair, br/eyes goatee. 5'7" 150# 27-39yo for friendship or more. I like biking, travel dining out, movies, give me a call. **5509**

GWM Seeks Latino

GWM, 40s, 5'7", 150lbs, bl/blue, goodlooking, sexy, HIV+, healthy, in-shape, professional, masculine, seeks Latino for dating, possible LTR. **5510**

GAM Seeks 1-1 Relationship

AM, late 30s, caring, attractive & sensual. Into 1 on 1 relationship. Not into BAR & sex club. Love massage, cuddling, kissing & foreign films. **5512**

LTR for Threesome *HIV+*

Want to explore the possibility of an alternative relationship? Looking to build a 3 way live in LTR. Me: educated, traveled, activist, like to entertain, cook, laugh, workout, versatile, like leatherman, very sexual, 53yo, 5'11", 175 br/b1, HIV+, herb/aroma. You: educated, have traveled, political, outgoing, financially stable, 30-40yo, good shape, spiritual, versatile. No: drugs, dependencies, possessiveness, unemployed or heavy drinkers. **5513**

Muthman Seeks Steady Position

Deeply down for aggressive affection, expressive hands, commands, praise. Prolonged wallowing ok. I'm free. I'm passionate, bright, all male. Dogheart, WM 52, 5'8" 175#, solid gymbody. Bald, short hair/beard. Healthy HIV+. **5514**

Elements Of Desire

GWM HIV+ 47yo 5'10" bottom ISO, 18-30yo into toys, music, video. Any race, East Bay, slender A+. **5512**

Older Men Wanted

Sissy TV bottom, loves wearing lipstick, lingerie & heels, seeks older WMs for dating, LTR, marriage, couples, all races welcome. **5527**

Strong Daddy Sks Loving Son

Big strong dominant daddy 48yo 6'190#. GWM sks younger obedient loyal submissive GWM son under 50 well built, eager to please for steady LTR. Be single or don't call. **5605**

Santa, Bring Me A Daddy!

Fit, sexy, groomed son wants to experience finer things with an older, adventurous, caring, mentally and financially fit Dad. Not an escort- just want a dad! Let's explore this city! **5606**

Aggressive Asian Men

Please dominate me socially and sexually. I'm GWM 6' 165lbs, trained to be obedient in S.E. Asia. I'm yours anytime. Vietnamese welcome. **5607**

Survivor of The 70's

Vibrant, creative Barracks/Hot House Veteran seeks trim natural masculine GWM (cologne free/NS): Hanging out with possibilities: no Republicans, no accountants. **5608**

Short Term/ Long Term

ISO Wm, Latino, or Asian with good height/weight proportion, disease free for mutually satisfying oral encounters. **5609**

Handsome Muscular Italian

GWM, 38, 6'2", 185lbs, into fitness, travel, romance & quiet times, seeking another HIV Negative extremely well-hung man for monogamous relationship. **5716**

Oversexed Older GWM ISO Love

With another horny, sweet, intelligent, humorous, boyish man, any age, ready for mutual fun & soul worship. Herb smokers, long hair, vocal orgasms are pluses. Can we cum together? **5610**

Wake Up In My Arms.....

Latin-Caribbean GM, 5'8" HIV+, prof, into arts, music, films, and liberal causes. Sks honest, masc., GM w/similar interests. I'm economic independent & like to travel. Intellectual capacity more important than looks. Up to 50 Bisexual/Middle Eastern/Mediterranean men with children A+. **5611**

Down And Out

I sk sum 1 who is insane, down and out wants to talk. **5612**

Wanted: White Collar Mass.

Slave for free bi-monthly prof. massage my way. You be masculine, 5'10"+, sensual. Must arrive in shirt and tie. Must meet first. Any race ok. **5613**

Shy Passionate Individual

Hispanic/native American seeks L/A/F for roller balding movies, dining, friendship and yes... sex. I'm ISO 33yo. Is this you? Let's talk. **5614**

Ex Tower Zombie

22 GWM 6ft 165lbs Athletic build short brn/blu, clean-cut, straight looking acting, seeking cowboy 20-30 big & beefy guy 20-30 NS, ND for LTR. **5615**

RU HIV+ Blk/Latin Capricorn Top

Shy, loving, HIV+ bottom Taurus, 36, 6', 180#, bl/bl, seeks funny, blunt, workaholic goat, soulmate, boyfriend. I won't tie you down or fence you in. Come over and graze awhile. **5616**

A Complimentary Partnership

Can 2 sensible, handsome & sexy reserved men nurture each other willingly, emotionally and affectionately while respecting pleasures of life? Yes. We're: creditable, 26-37, compassionate/others, and in quest to better ourselves through one another. **5706**

Mixed Nationality

GWM. Seeks mixed race for good honest safe sex. HIV+, clean hygiene must be: sexually strong, aggressive and gentle with bed. Swollen nipples and big round ass a +. **5707**

Seeking Partnership

Rope bondage enthusiast ISO sex-masochist for exploration & partnership. You be in-shape, hung & experienced. Relationship oriented. **5709**

Loving Son 4 New Year

An honest, good looking and thoughtful Asian top GWM/LM 40-55 ND, NS with flat hair for friendship or LTR. I'm affectionate, warm loving, like movies, theater. Answer all call. **5710**

Woman Seeks Man For Courting

Natural, quiet, cultured, mid-aged "woman" Seeks gentleman friend or couple. Stable relationship desired. Perhaps a married man? **5711**

Wanted: A Happier New Year!

HIV+, 36, 160, handsome, natural blond, blue eyes, seeks caring, sexy, GWM/HM for LTR. Let's play living games and start living! Darker hair preferred - not required. Romance and sincerity are! **5712**

Impotence Too?

Retired 60s GM man wants to touch and share the fun of living with fellow seniors who like some of the things he likes. Don't be shy! **5713**

I'm Looking For More Than Sex

I enjoy sex. I also enjoy a good laugh, movie, meal, & talking for hours. GWM 39 660lbs hairy and a bottom. **5717**

Raunch Buddy Wanted

Masculine WM, 37, looking for masculine partner to explore raunch, WS, Scat action on a regular basis. **5718**

Pretty Woman 4 Free

Young looking 40 GWM wants to dress up and be a pretty woman for you. Good times all the way! **5719**

Do You Believe?

32GWM 5'10" 160lbs tired of games, being broken hearted. Looking for homes, real guy, 28-36, not into games, bar scene. Does anybody really fall in love anymore? I believe. **5720**

This Black Man Loves Asian Men!

Like the feel of your skin. Me: slender Black man, 45, big dick. You: slender 25-45. Let's fuck and.... I want every inch of you. Let's talk! **5750**

SEEKING ADVENTURE

Bear-Big Guys.....
Tired of always being on top? this masc. WM loves to plow ass hard & deep. **5629**

Neil Friday Night 10/30/98

You touched me in such an incredible sensual way, with passionate rhythm felt by few. Too good to let slip away. When I see you again, we will smile. **Troy. 5600**

Neil Friday Night 10/30/98

You touched me in such an incredible sensual way, with passionate rhythm felt by few. Too good to let slip away. When I see you again, we will smile. **Troy. 5600**

All I Want For Christmas...
Is a spiritual fucker. Handsome, hairy, bald daddy seeks a partner with an open heart to explore sexual connection. I'm a healthy positive with a body like a Roman statue. ☎ 5415

Back To Basics
44yo GWM 5'6", 140. Blonde seeks another GWM who likes wearing torn & worn out 50's black leather jacket and military boots (tall logger) sexual adventures in this attire. ☎ 5416

Handsome Top Wants Some Butt
Or a nice soft mouth. 8 inches looking for warm holes to fill. I: in-shape, 38, goatee, blond and love a good time with you. ☎ 5417

Attention All Mature "Brothas"
Nice, sensuous WM 43 HIV- with hot mouth & tongue would love to safely service HIV- BM's 35-65. I'm talented & versatile who really knows how to please mature "brothas". ☎ 5418

Just Shut-Up & Ride!!!!!!
WM, 33, 5'10", 200lb blond/blue muscle hunk- 48" w, 18" arms. Wants godlooking masculine men to pump me or get pumped till we squirt. Also love to get massaged and jerked off. Anytime. ☎ 5419

Slim Smooth Btm Boy Wants Dad
5'9" 145# Blond-brown needs music, hairy dad handle & fondle- beautiful full butt ready for daddy- eager and ready. ☎ 5420

GWM Seeks GBM
5'10" 160#, HIV+, bottom, 44, looking for sex, friendship, possibly LTR, besides sex would like to get out & do things. Like books, movies, outdoor walks. ☎ 5421

Blond Top Seeks Rimmers
Handsome blond, hairy chest, inshape well hung top with a great butt wants some tongue action from fun guys who want to find the right spot. ☎ 5422

Sadists Wanted by Hot Sub
Sex slave, torture subject, and urinal available for gik-dicked sadists. Solid, 41 shaved head, tattoos, experienced. WE, TT, CBT, BD, ☎ 5423
Make your squirming bare cunt. ☎ 5423

Straight seeks over 65 Hung WM
My Asian girl friend wants to watch me on my knees as you grab back of my head and fuck my virgin throat- shooting your hot load on my face. ☎ 5424

Big Bears Big Daddies
GBM, 5'11", 250lbs, 45yo, big chest, hung seeks big, husky and pleasantly fat, men for uninhibited sex. My size or bigger only. Description. ☎ 5425

Black, Latin on White
You: Sexy, top for this kinky tight butt bottom, service you front and back, uncut hot, nasty mind hotter! 20-45 and slender CK me out! ☎ 5426

Looking For Hot Passionate Fun
You: 25-50, fit, interested in hot play, kissing, hugging and good friendship-Asian, Latin, Black A+. Me: 42, WM, 145lbs, healthy, young attitude. ☎ 5516

Masseur at Your Service
GWM semi-retired, prof. husky, wrestler, wrestler's build offers free massage for str.-acting married or single athletic males. ☎ 5517

Wanted: Hot HIV+ Mansex
I'll suck your big cock till' hard. Fuck me long and slow for hour(s). You suck my cock & I'll fuck you. Also, passionate, teasing, tit and ball play/torture. Me: middle aged, good looks, 5'11", workout, br/hz, HIV+, ISO ready, not LTR. You: under 40, any race, versatile, safe sex, can keep it up, her ok, no drugs or heavy drinkers. ☎ 5518

Sanoma Co Dildo Fuckhole
Godlooking guy needs nasty top men into hot, seedy butt hole play using fingers, big dildos. Like showing off hole, dirty talk. Enthusiasm more important than looks, age. All calls returned. ☎ 5519

ISO Dominant
Inexperienced, submissive attractive, in-shape 5'7", 148, 45, ISO in-shape dominant verbal to please and obey. ☎ 5520

Bay GW Bear CPL ISO Masc
Men for hot 3-ways. We're both 40s, bearded, tall, over 220#, hairy, masculine, 5'8", T/B, stable. You: 30+, 180#+, versatile, ready for intense weekend play & future E. Bay Bear parties. ☎ 5521

Best Butt Work In SF
Topman into asplay-erotic spanking. Hugs & kisses too. Me: attrac, GWM, 48, 6'5" 250#, husky build, brown hair/moustache, hairy chest & stomach. You: attrac, GWM(white, asian, latin), slim, smooth/moderate body-hair, nice buns. ☎ 5522

Merciless Pounding
Nasty, hung-blq top, 42, looking to pound in-shape bottoms mouth and butt. Must be able to take it long and deep. ☎ 5733

Bik Btm Sks Tops
GBM 53 5'10" 200lbs, HIV+, but to service GWM/GLM tops with my ass, oil massage, oral, video, foot/body milp. Open minded fuck buddy. ☎ 5523

Hot & Horny Like to get Fucked
GWM 5'11" 175# HIV- NS ND, like to suck and get fucked and play around watch video's age & color not a factor please call. ☎ 5524

Hot Handsome Dk Top Worshiper
For the guy with big sensitive hangers that like attention from an experienced mature GWM; 5'10, 155, toned, hot mouth and touch, bearded. You be aware of the pleasure, or curious. ☎ 5525

Got a Big Dick or Smooth Ass?
Get them serviced by a handsome oral expert/world-renowned for his expertise! Downtown location, quick callback. Treat yourself! You won't be sorry! ☎ 5526

Rugged Guy
Masculine, affectionate, athletic Asian, 5'9", 155, smooth swimmer's body, seeks clean-shaven, lean or muscular smooth WM for hot, sensual body and oral workouts. ☎ 5528

Wanted: Guys With Hard Cocks
Looking for guys with hard cocks who want to party. Check out my box and get my web address, tell me what you're into. ☎ 5529

Island Suckpig Wanted!
Human vacuum in zip code 94501 needed to receive fast, frequent throat explosions. You're easy to reach (no call-backs) and have no age, race, looks hang ups. Experts only. ☎ 5530

Horny GWM Seeks GAM Playmates
Sexxy GWM top 5'11", hairy chest, BI/BI top seeks boyish, slender GAM for not sex. ☎ 5531

Skinny In Sonoma County
Wrap your slender young (18-30) legs around me while I give you great head and rimming. I'm 50s, nice looking, generous, fun, healthy, love/short or tall guys. ☎ 5532

Asian Tops Wanted
Big GWM Bottom, 32, 6'3", 280lbs. Great bjs, rimjobs and best ass. Dominate Asian males only. ☎ 5533

A-1 Oral Service - Delivered
SF GWM, HIV-, 6', handsome, delivers oral complete oral service to mature, trim guys who really dig getting sucked off. No reciprocation. HIV-. ☎ 5534

Poz GBM Sks Tops
Poz GBM 37 6' 180, masculine but submissive. A + for short small built men, but not a requirement. Tell me how you want me to take it. ☎ 5617

Front & Rear Oral Service
To tops verbal A+. Raunch A+. Kink A+. ☎ 5618

Secure Responsible Male 50s Sks
Companion for travel, movies, walks, dinners, and long term relationship. You: HIV-, younger, caring, honest, down to earth. Italian, Greek, Latino A+. I await your call. ☎ 5619

Jackoff - Showoff?? Need an Apt?
Devoted to pleasing yourself? love demonstrating your expertise in windows for worshipful neighbors? Need an SF apt? If you're Asian or GWM 30s or 40s let's talk! ☎ 5620

Leanne Earn Your Vote Too!
I'm facing re-election as a captain, U.S. Olympic cockslapping team. Rivals yelling "term limits!" Action needed. Pull it out. You'll wanna repeat! Ok by me. ☎ 5621

Older Seeks Black or Latino
GWM in SF, 60, 5'8" 145# HIV- NS, ND white beard ISO younger fit mature black or latino under 6' for mutual cuddling, massage. JO. ☎ 5726

Looking For A Typical Male
GWM 36, 6', 170+, HIV+ and well endowed who likes to work up a sweat and who doesn't have gag ups when it comes to sex. ☎ 5729

Big Hands Big Feet Big...?????
GWM, top, 49, 6'3" 150#, dark brown hair. Prefer lean aggressive men under 50. One or more at a time. ☎ 5730

Wanna Fuck?
Total bottom seeks GWM top for completely satisfying service. Will suck your dick to get you started. You are HIV-, tall, well built & handsome 30-50. I am 5'8", s/p, hot, short stache. ND, aroma ok. ☎ 5732

It's All About You
Submissive bottom, 6', 200lb, buzz-cut, hairy, nice butt, eager to please mouth. ISO masculine top who wants to train for his pleasure. ☎ 5622

Boy Wanted For The New Year!
Lots of loving and light S&M scenes. Master-Daddy is 75, 5'7", 170#, attractive and you are 18-40, Gdkg, submissive and enjoy serving an older man. Open to LTR. ☎ 5623

Sit On My Face
Well built top, hung big needs well built WM (20s-30s) with big firm hairy butt to eat and fuck. ☎ 5624

Seeking Black Tops
GWM, 37, 5'11" 192 Golds Gym Buff W/stache seeks black man top, gay or straight. Be good at it. Be in-shape. Mirrors, rubbers and lube provided. ☎ 5626

Palo Alto GAM Cockslucker 40yo
5'11" 185 ISO guys under 45 to give head to with no reciprocation. UB 7' or more. Between 11pm-9am week days, your place. ☎ 5627

Hot Horny Hung Bodybuilder
Looking for a steady muscular fuck buddy. I'm a very attractive masculine BM 31yo 5'8" 180 solid muscle 30" w hung 9x6. Looking for other very muscular guys 25-38. ☎ 5627

ISO Hung Cut Over 60 AM or WM
BI-curious masculine mature WM wants on knees hands handcuffed behind back while you grab back of my head fucking my virgin throat shoot your hot load on my face. ☎ 5721

D'ya Know What It's Like???
To need a cock or a fist up your ass? To need your balls squeezed? To need a cock to worship? If you do, please help. ☎ 5722

Just Shut-Up And Ride!
33, 5'10" 200lb blond/blue muscle hunk- 48" ch 32" w 18" arms. Wants godlooking masculine men to pump me or get pumped. Also love to get massaged and jerked off anytime! ☎ 5723

Seeking Under 50 HIV- Lean
Men to suck one or more at a time. No reciprocation necessary. I am in my 50s, 5'10", 150#, dark brown hair, any race, 7inches welcome. ☎ 5724

Woo!
Masc., musc., couple (5'10", 220lb, hairy, 44y, & 6', 225lb, BB, defined, 50yo) ISO new friends (sex & non-sex) masc., men (30-50yo) hairy A+. ☎ 5725

White Bottom Needs HIV- Latino
Dick to suck. No reciprocation necessary. I am in my 50s, 5'10", 150#, dark brown hair. Prefer lean aggressive men under 50. One or more at a time. ☎ 5727

Formerly Straight
Masculine WM, 41, with lean build wants to try oraly submissive. Seeking another very lean, dominant guy younger or same age to make me get on my knees. ☎ 5728

Looking For A Typical Male
GWM 36, 6', 170+, HIV+ and well endowed who likes to work up a sweat and who doesn't have gag ups when it comes to sex. ☎ 5729

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Wanna Fuck?
Total bottom seeks GWM top for completely satisfying service. Will suck your dick to get you started. You are HIV-, tall, well built & handsome 30-50. I am 5'8", s/p, hot, short stache. ND, aroma ok. ☎ 5732

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GWM in SF, 60, 5'8" 145# HIV- NS, ND white beard ISO younger fit mature black or latino under 6' for mutual cuddling, massage. JO. ☎ 5726

Wanna Fuck?
Total bottom seeks GWM top for completely satisfying service. Will suck your dick to get you started. You are HIV-, tall, well built & handsome 30-50. I am 5'8", s/p, hot, short stache. ND, aroma ok. ☎ 5732

Looking For A Typical Male
GWM 36, 6', 170+, HIV+ and well endowed who likes to work up a sweat and who doesn't have gag ups when it comes to sex. ☎ 5729

Big Hands Big Feet Big...?????
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Wanted: A Happier New Year!
Submissive bottom, 6', 200lb, buzz-cut, hairy, nice butt, eager to please mouth. ISO masculine top who wants to train for his pleasure. ☎ 5622

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Attractive Latino 32, 5'11", 190, Virgo, size 12 shoe. NS. Would like to meet Latinas, Whites or Asians into same fetish NS only. No games under 38. ☎ 5544

Mature Master ISO Slave
Experienced mature GWM master ISO potential GWM slave to train for his pleasure. Be ready for mind control and total obedience. Well built, healthy 30-50ys old. ☎ 5630

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GWM Grad Student, smooth, fit, attractive sees similar for cigar smoking good times. Pls. Be under 30. Muscular A+. ☎ 5631

Ass Rimmer For Dr. Goodalove
GWM, 47, 6' 175#, Br/Bi, uncop, tops, handsome, gym toned. Be 25-45, in-shape with nice buns. Black A+. You must love to eat ass for hours. ☎ 5632

Young Slaves Wanted
Handsome Asian master 38, 5'9", 150# workout seeks fit 18-40 for training, roleplaying, B/D, fantasy. Beginners welcome. Also into massage exchange, posing, submissive bottoms. ☎ 5544

Mature Boot Licking
Piss drinker seeks well endowed men to worship and service with his talented deep throat. ☎ 5634

RU Up with Underwear Fetish?
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Love to Rim Butt
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Hugely Hung Master Sought
Fr active, greek passive in-shape, 40, 6'1", 195# slave top. Caning, paddling, enemas, G/S, N/T, CBT, etc. ☎ 5538

Bondage & Discipline!
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Thirsty 1942 Model
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Grey Haired? In-Shape?
Slim mid aged guy will be happy to provide leisurely, laid back stimulating oral service in in-shape, grey haired owner of def/wt equipment ongoing arrangement possible. S 5742

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White boy sex slave needed for 5 whipping and topping by GAM 58 5'5" 140lbs. Boy must have trim body, no bald. ☎ 5544

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From Nova, April 1973

Helmut Newton

◀ page 43

possibly high heels or choreographed into lipstick lesbian catfights, there's less a sense of victimhood than of subversive sisterhood. In a 1971 spread, for example, a ringleted Xena type with well-manicured nails seems to have rescued a babe in a rainbow sweater and brightly colored lederhosen, while a 1973 photo echoes Sharon Stone's classic leg-crossing scene in *Basic Instinct*, only here the model exudes the same kind of power — while wearing a blindfold. The fact that nearly all these pictures were shot for women's magazines whips the gender gaze issue into a frothy cocktail. The kinky, Newtonian brand of sexuality has a similar intoxicating effect.

The scenarios, which Newton often devised with his wife June, give vision to a range of carnal fantasies: Power-suited women parading around a posse of Speedo-clad hunks; a well-jeweled woman displays her hunger as she carves up a roasted chicken with a variety of sharp implements; a dominatrix bosses a crowd of paparazzi at Cannes; a lithe woman in a suit lights the cigarette of a femme pal with same-sex bravado; a group of businessmen wine and dine an expensively dressed mannequin. These perversely suggestive images remind how much freer European editorial standards are in the sexuality department. His 1975 "Story of Ohhh" spread in U.S. *Vogue*, a bisexual romp with lots of breast groping and hints of bestiality, apparently shocked the American public. According to the photographer, it imbued Newton with his bad boy image. "This was the beginning of my notoriety and I never looked back."

In the brief texts peppered through the book, Newton, now 78 years old and still working, doesn't seem to stop much to reflect. He just thanks his editors and offers entertaining anecdotes about some of the more elaborate pictures. Sometimes Newton's pragmatic approach may come off sounding crass — he describes the model for his first assignment for French *Vogue* as "a real Frenchie-looking girl." But he doesn't need to say much, as his pictures speak quite confidently on their own. They wholly attest to his admission that "During my whole life as a photographer the printed page was my dynamo." The 500 graciously glossy pages we get here are as dynamic as it gets. ▼

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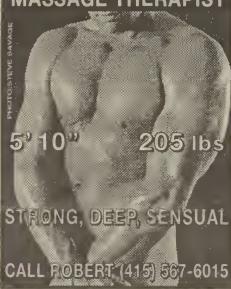
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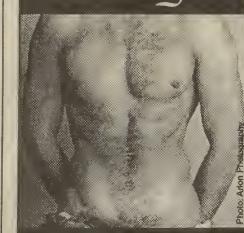
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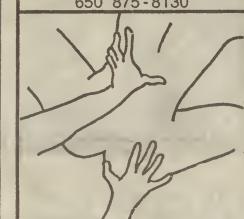
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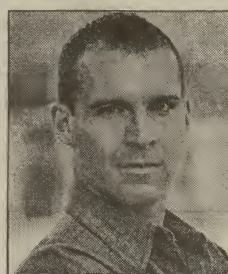
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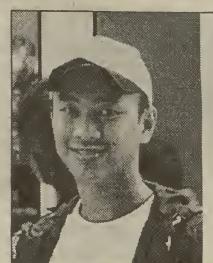
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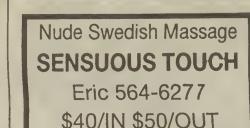
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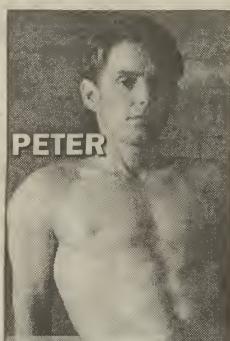
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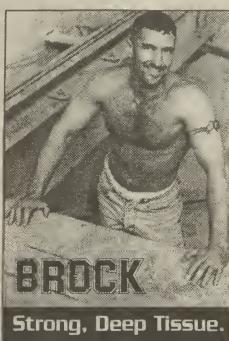


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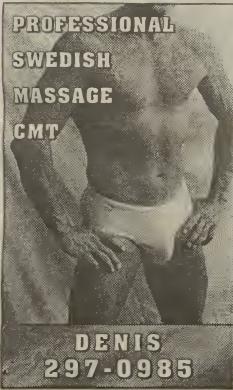
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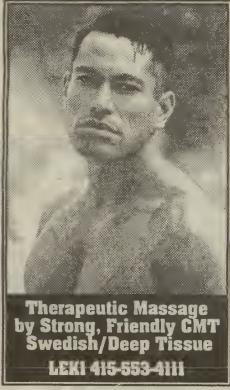
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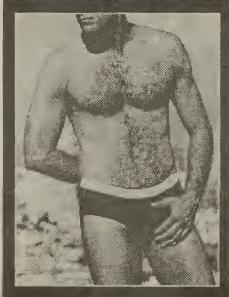
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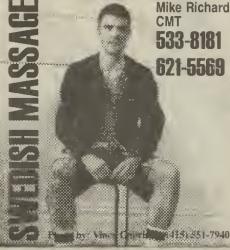


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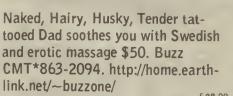
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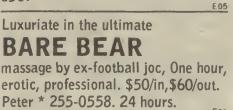
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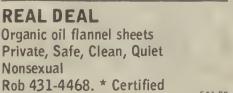
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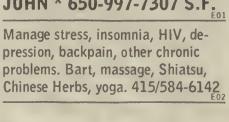
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E01



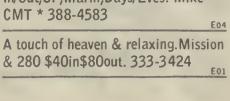
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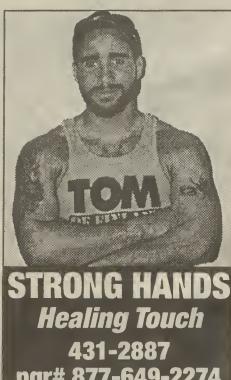
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A touch of heaven & relaxing. Mission & 280 \$40in\$80out. 333-3424

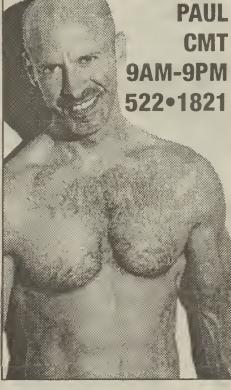
E01

Essential Health * 550-7438 Jon

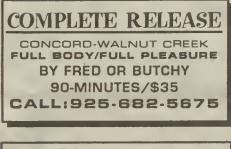
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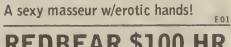
Italian
Paul
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nude sensual massage



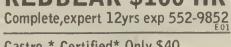
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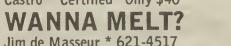
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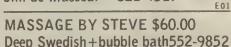
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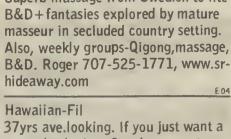
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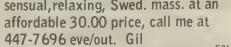


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Gd. Iking Int. bondage, S/M, W/S,

F/F, CBT, violet wand, toys, boots.

Beginner? Have playspace & equip.

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Handsome Gentle Daddy age 42

Sensual Body Rub Hung 8 & Thick

\$60 Dave 437-0772 E01

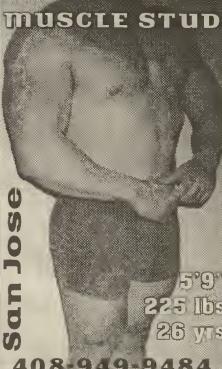
SOCER JOCK

Lean, Athletic Body - versatile

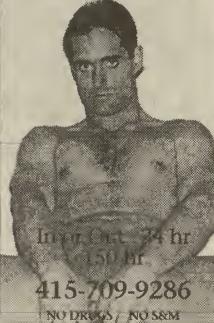
Kevin. Pg# 605-5328 out only 24/7 E01

PERSONALS

MODELS/ESCORTS

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5'9"
225 lbs
26 yrs
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Very Goodlooking, Blond, Masculine, Muscular Bodybuilder
46" Chest / 32" Waist/Thick & Well-Endowed • Outcalls Only
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LONG, SENSUAL SESSIONS WITH A TOP WHO ENJOYS TAKING HIS TIME. TALL & BUILT. FULL PLAYROOM.
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Cute, Bubbly, Ver/Top.
5'10", 150 lbs, 7" uncut.
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Tight, Lean, Athletic Studboy
YOUNG STALLION
Totally handsome, masculine 24yo. Has it all. Hard pole, delicious ass 6', 165#, boyish gd looks. Versatile Any scene. Out/ \$100up
RETT* 469-2701

Sensual Satisfaction 792-8388
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Dutch, Irish, Aussie 24 5'10" 160lb
"NEW IN TOWN"

9.5" CUT VERY THICK!!!

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SHANE 510-729-7958 VM

Intelligent man w/great body
40YO GWM 6'3" 200LBS
Very hairy, Nice Butt/Chest/Leg's
Eve/Wknd Out Only Vry Safe/Sane
All SF area. Jay: 415-582-7001 VM

25 6'2" 190# VGL 8" + Bubble butt

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Fantasy? Drew 415-679-8675 Out
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Masculine Horny Asian Butt 25yrs

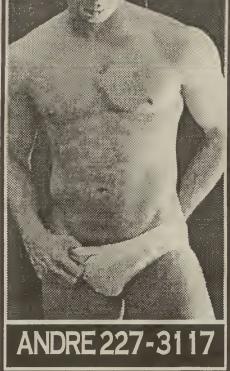
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Handsome mature Italian Butt

Sensual, Sexy and Hot

6'1" 180lbs Call 807-9822

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21 yo,
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E07

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HANDSOME,CLEANCUT,ITALIAN

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E01

NASTY HUNG TOP

Eager to Fulfill Your Pleasures

5'10", 165, 8X6 Thick Inches

FF, Toys, Most Scenes

24Hrs 377-8779 In/Out

E01

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Bld/Blu Gdg Day/Evening

Jimmy 212-0956 In/Out \$100 Out \$120

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Kicks back for service*24 Hours

10X6"UNCUT

Big fat tool 487-1679 Pgr678-1005

E01

24yo, Blond/Blue, Lean & Toned

BOY-NEXT DOOR

Sensual, Affectionate Bottomboy

Handsome, Friendly & Clean-Cut

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E02

22YOADORABLEBOY

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190lbs of Solid Muscle 207-9045

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Small expert hands. Out only

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E04

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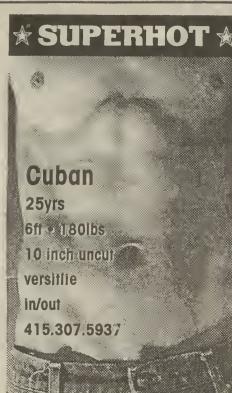
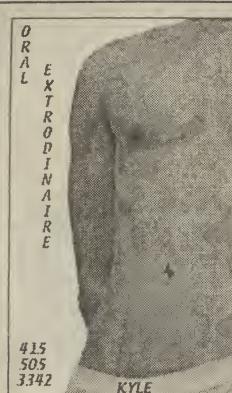
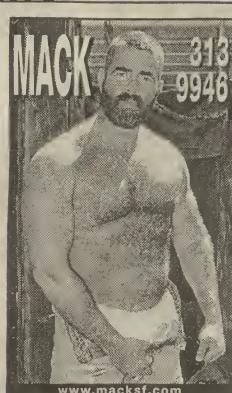
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MODELS/ESCORTS

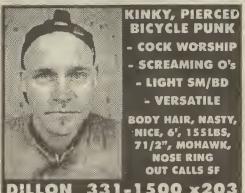


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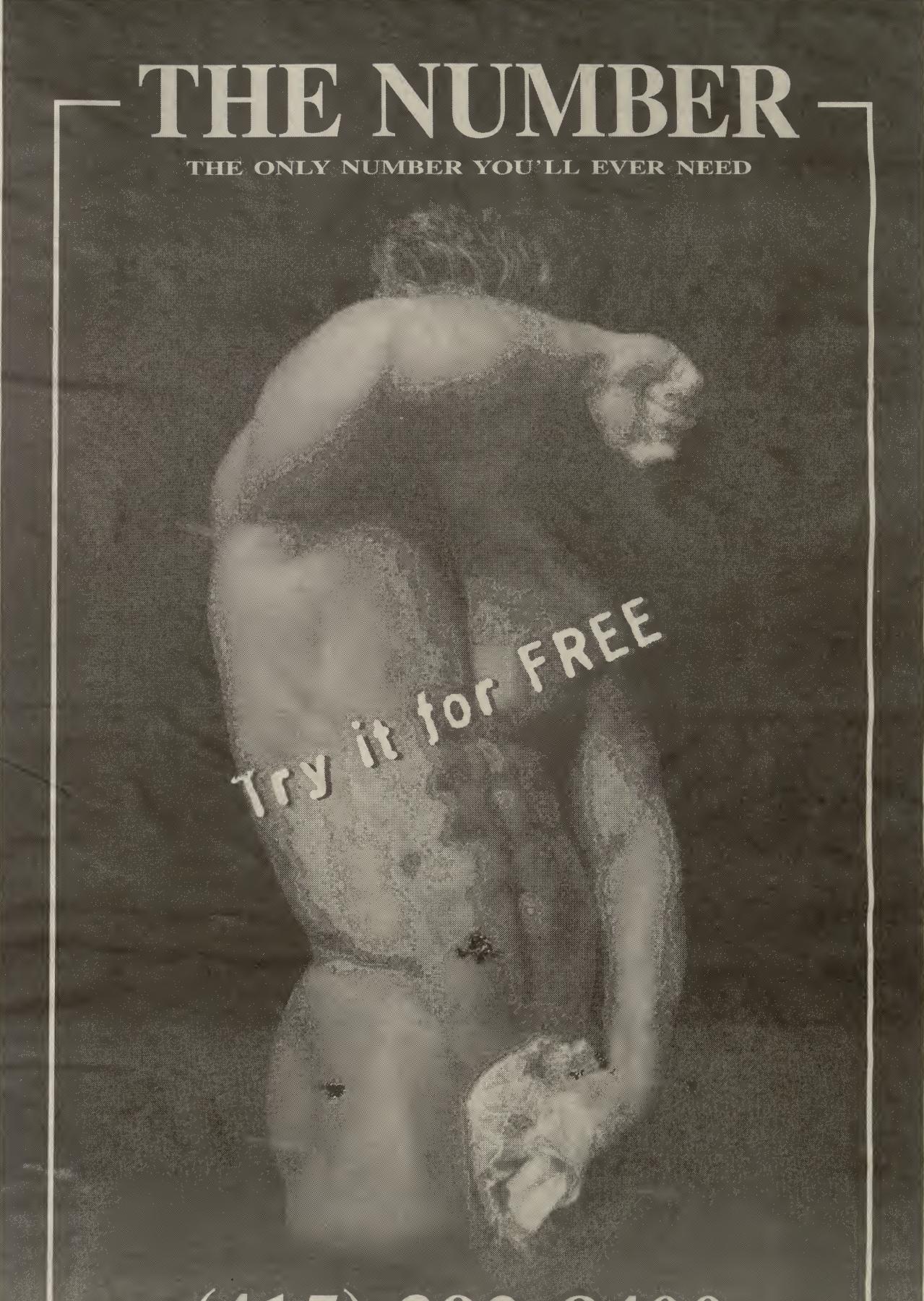
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